

OUR 115TH YEAR

# ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

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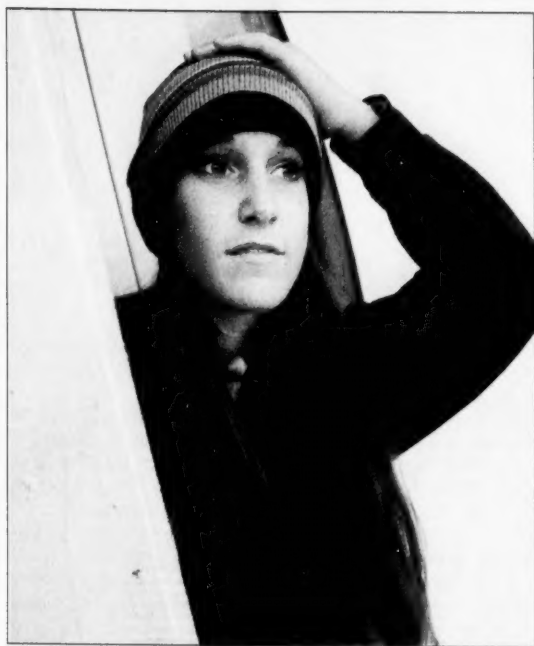
Addison art easy to reach 11

Issue No. 23

30 pages and 8-page section

FEBRUARY 6, 2003

75 CENTS



Jaclyn Harrold waits for her mom to pick her up after school. Andover schools say students should wear warmer clothes to school as the heat in buildings has been turned down.

## Kids chill out

Schools lower heat (to 68 degrees), call for sweaters, to burn less cash

By Ben Hellman

Feeling budget heat, school officials are turning down the thermostat at Andover schools. The normal 70- to 72-degree temperatures are going down to 68 to 70, which plant and facilities director Joe Piantedosi says will save "a sizable amount of money."

"Heat will be turned down during the day and evening wherever possible (and) parents will be informed so that they may send their children to school with sweaters," said a recent memo to all staff from Bernie Tuttle, school business administrator.

Space heaters will not be

allowed and will be confiscated by janitors and plant and facilities personnel if found.

The reduction in heat was just one option suggested by Tuttle as an alternative to layoffs (see sidebar).

Lowering the thermostat a degree or two will not feel much different to people in a building the size of Andover High School, said Principal Peter Anderson said. "I can't tell," he said.

Some might be able to, however.

"I wear scarves to all my classes," said Liz McConaughy, a junior and student representative.

Continued on page 2

## Budget ax aimed to hit 30 teachers

By Meir Rinde

The school district will lay off teachers, slash spending on computers and a range of physical education, health, art and music programs and ask employees to take an unpaid, two-day furlough under Superintendent Claudia Bach's proposed budget for next school year.

Bach yesterday proposed cutting jobs that add up to 43 full-time positions, including the equivalent of at least 30 teacher positions. Some of the cuts will reduce but not eliminate positions, or cut part-time employees.

A School Committee vote on

Continued on page 2

### Layoffs

**ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL**  
Cut 10.6 teaching positions and two support positions, totaling \$560,905

**MIDDLE SCHOOLS**  
Cut 6.5 teaching positions and stipends, totaling \$443,559

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Cut 10.8 teaching positions and stipends, plus eight support positions, totaling \$717,548

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### COLLECT CALL



Pete Zetian answered phones at the Raise the Roof telethon that raised \$83,000 to build an Andover youth center. Story, page 5.

## 25 YEARS AGO TODAY: THE BLIZZARD OF '78

# Blizzard of memories

Today marks the 25th anniversary of the Blizzard of '78, a storm that left people with a variety of powerful memories. Some, such as Martin Klein, knew people who died in the storm. Many remember hours of digging and a peaceful week where people seemed to have more time for each other.

Inside this issue, readers will find the blizzard memories of Andover residents. John Doherty remembers having the difficult task of spending an extra day in

Tahiti because he couldn't fly out. Kathi Chang recalls she and her fiancé, John, walked five miles to be together.

Joe Magner remembers being stopped by police as he broke the state's driving ban to attend a memorial Mass for his father. A college student at the time, he also remembers playing hours of darts and Pong, a video game.

Whatever one's memories, one thing is clear. Twenty-five years later, the Blizzard of '78 remains a powerful storm.



Digging cars out of their snowy encasements was a two-day battle for some residents, such as Andover resident Norma Shepperd, whose car was in Cambridge at the time (above).

## Trapped, he listened as friends, boat were lost at sea

ON THE DAY of the Blizzard of '78 I had worked late at my office in Salem, N.H. When I went to leave, a snowbank blocked the door and my car was completely buried in snow. I was stuck in the building for quite a while - part of the time in the dark listening to a battery-powered radio.

Our company, Klein Associates Inc., used to hire local boats to test our sonar equipment at sea. We had recently been out on the pilot boat *Can Do* out of Gloucester. Captain Frank Quirk and his crew were an amazing group of rugged New England seamen, and the name they gave their boat said everything about them.

As I sat alone, the chilling announcement came over the radio that the *Can Do* was sinking. She had gone out in 30 to 40 foot seas and 50 knot winds to answer a rescue call from the crew aboard a tanker grounded in Salem Harbor. These were impossible conditions, but her name was *Can Do*.

This is in memory of Capt. Frank Quirk, Donald Wilkinson, Charles Bucko, Norman David Curley and P. Kenneth Fuller, the brave souls who went down that day trying to save others.

- Martin Klein  
4 Old South Lane



## Strapping on cross-country skis to track snow-plow driver

OUR 3-YEAR-OLD daughter had a temperature. We had run out of baby aspirin so we called our Andover neighbor who had lots of kids, hoping they would have some aspirin. We also had run out of milk.

The storm was over but we were going nowhere. We have a long driveway and our Jeep with a plow was just not strong enough to move all that snow.

We called the neighbor to learn that they had the needed supplies. Now we had to get

there. The snow was so deep you couldn't walk in it. I put on my cross-country skis and headed out. Hardly a sound could be heard, but I could hear the unmistakable sound of heavy equipment - plows.

I reached our neighbors, collected the baby aspirin and milk - and gazed down the precipice. I was atop a five foot cliff! Below was Gray Road. It had been plowed!

It was several days before we

Continued on page 7

## No work, but pay for a week

THERE WAS A special announcement on first night after the Blizzard of '78 began that residents within a couple of blocks of the Prudential Center could park their cars in the underground parking garage for free for the duration of the storm. It was difficult enough in good weather to find a parking spot on the street, but after the previous storm it had become a

supernatural experience. I went for the free parking. Many people had their cars towed to enable snow removal. When I drove out of the garage I had no snow on my car and there was plenty of parking available.

I was awakened later that night by a city bus revving its engine hard, trying to free itself from a 3 1/2-foot-high snowdrift

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## 120-year-old pipes have historic impact

Broken pipe adds to Historical Society's cash flow concerns

By Ben Hellman

The Andover Historical Society is not out of rough waters yet as it looks to deal with the cost of repairing a broken water pipe, a leaky boiler and an unrelated flooding problem that struck last week.

Already in a tight financial year and about to spend \$25,000 to replace the building's 60-year-old boiler and failing air-conditioning units, director Elaine Clements Zopes says the unexpected \$4,500 bill from excavation and plumbing services needed last Thursday is troubling. "It's still a dicey financial year for us. I am still worried," says Zopes.

The situation is better than

last week, when water pressure loss coupled with a leaky boiler threatened some of Andover's historical treasures. The society was faced with potentially costly excavations and plumbing problems of unknown cause.

After a week of water troubles, excavators discovered the root of the trouble - a rotten cast-iron water pipe - and replaced it with a new copper pipe last Friday, Jan. 31. Police established a detour on Main Street last Thursday, while workers cut open the street. Zopes says the old iron pipe had deteriorated to such an extent that a worker's screwdriver went right through it

Continued on page 2

## Water-main breaks plentiful

By Andrea Gregory

An unusually high number of water main breaks - more than 40 - has been caused by this winter's frigid weather.

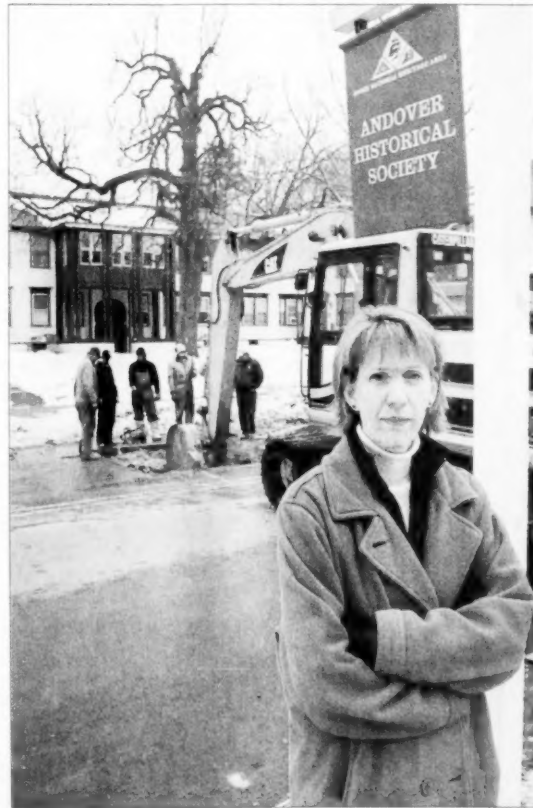
Director of Public Works Jack Petkus says in most cases, the town is left footing the bill for problems that occur with water mains, which cost about \$100 per foot to replace. The issue was brought up at the last selectmen's meeting. An article

on the town warrant asks for money to repair and replace water mains.

"It's relative to weather conditions," said Town Manager Buzz Stapeczinski when he announced three feet of frost in the ground is causing numerous mains to break.

Petkus agrees the number of breaks is very high this year and that the cold and the depth

Continued on page 7



A broken water pipe last week added to the Andover Historical Society's financial problems, says director Elaine Clements Zopes. Many other water mains also have broken around town.





## Historical water main

### ■ REPAIRS

Continued from page 1

while they were searching for it.

The water failures forced the society to recharge their boiler several times per day. Society volunteers worked around the clock, letting plumbers into the building in the middle of the night to get to the boiler to try to keep a steady temperature for the old materials while excavators cut through three feet of frozen ground.

But Zopes' worst fears were realized Thursday night when a water pipe believed to be inactive froze, burst, and began to flood the society's archives. A water sensor on the floor went off in the evening, forcing volunteers out of bed after midnight. The clean-up lasted until 1:30 a.m. and it appears nothing was damaged, she says, but the documents and photos held in the old house are sensitive to heat and humidity changes.

The society archives hold documents from the witch trials and the late 17th century, says Zopes. "They're not just about this town. They're of regional and national importance," says Zopes.

Zopes says the troubles have



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Elaine Clements Zopes, Historical Society director (far right) watches as workers get to the bottom of the problem that left her facility without water last week.

forced the non-profit organization to seek emergency donations. Those interested in contributing may do so by check or

credit card. The Andover Historical Society is located at 97 Main St. The phone number is: 978-475-2236.

## Saving \$134,000 per year

### ■ HEAT

Continued from page 1

tive to the School Committee. She said she finds the high school to be cold, while noting that temperatures vary from room to room.

But other AHS regulars said the temperatures are fine. Students and staff at Andover High complained about the cold during the January cold snap, but teachers say the recent heating cutback hasn't been drastic. "The building is comfortable," said Ruth Masters, a social studies teacher.

On Monday, Masters and fellow teacher Mary Robb were moving desks around the classroom they share and felt warm at the time. Robb was wearing a T-shirt, but said that her room is abnormally warm in a building where some rooms are colder than others.

Regardless of whether peo-

ple notice a difference in temperature, Piantedosi said that the two- to four-degree change will make a noticeable difference in the budget.

"It is a sizable amount of money over the course of the year," he said. But 68 degrees is about as low as Piantedosi wants to go.

"If you go down to 66, we end up getting a ton of complaint calls," he said.

Teacher Robb said the temperature drop could have one other advantage: it might encourage female students to cover up or wear less-revealing clothing.

"We see it all: short sleeves, short shirts, short skirts," said Robb. Several other female teachers interviewed agreed they would welcome seeing less of the student body's bodies, especially cleavage and midriffs.

### Savings or layoffs

Besides asking for the heat to be lowered, Schools Business Manager Bernie Tuttle has asked teachers to conserve energy in other ways.

In a memo that also talks about layoffs, Tuttle has requested that teachers take such action as turning off computers and lights when they aren't in use and cutting back on individual coffee pots and refrigerators.

"It's my subtle message that you continue to use these things maybe some of you will be laid off. If I can't realize savings there will be layoffs," said Tuttle.

Such considerations were not mandated though, because Tuttle said he didn't want to get into a dispute with the teacher's union over long-standing workplace niceties.

## 'Real people in real jobs'

### ■ TEACHERS

Continued from page 1

the budget is scheduled for March 11. Member Gerry Gustus said the committee probably would not significantly change the proposal.

Those who are likely to lose their jobs include physical education and health teachers as well as assistant teachers at the town's six elementary schools; industrial arts, technology and music staffers at the three middle schools; and applied technology,

language, art and health teachers at Andover High School.

Administrators phoned teachers Monday and Tuesday to give them early notice they would be laid off at the end of this school year, Bach said.

"These are real people, in real jobs, who are important to us," she said at last night's School Committee meeting. "It's been painful."

The bad news for High Plain Elementary School physical education teacher Meredith

Emery came Monday morning just before her first class of the day, she said.

"We knew there would be cuts, but nobody in the department was expecting to be hit as hard as we were," Emery said after the meeting.

Elementary physical education will lose the equivalent of 5.5 teachers, suggesting a teacher will be laid off at each school.

The committee will quiz Bach on the budget at workshops Feb. 11, Feb. 27 and Mar. 4 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the school administration building.

Part of the time will be set aside for public comment, Chairwoman Tina Girdwood said.

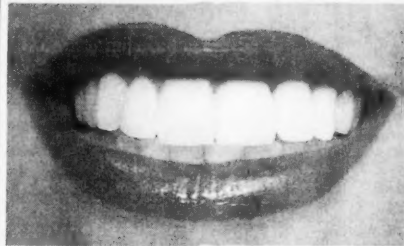
The proposed layoffs would cut \$2.3 million from schools' \$46.7 million budget. A furlough plan that would cut teachers' paid preparation days from four to two would save another \$364,000, but will require approval from the teachers union and other employee bargaining groups. It would affect all school employees, Bach said.

More savings would come from spending \$281,000 less on supplies, turning down the heat to save \$134,000, and shifting \$124,000 from technology spending to new textbook purchases. A plan to spend \$470,000 to replace outdated computers and servers was slashed roughly in half. Gustus and teachers union head Thomas E. Meyers said Town Meeting should shift money from the town budget to the schools to prevent what Meyers called "drastic, draconian" cuts. But he said unions would cooperate in the budget-cutting process.

In addition to the cuts, Bach proposed charging students in grades 7 through 12 bus fees to raise \$225,000 and increasing lunch costs to bring in another \$50,000. Adding six more fee-based, all-day kindergarten classes at the elementary schools will raise \$50,000, and \$30,000 will come from higher high school parking fees.

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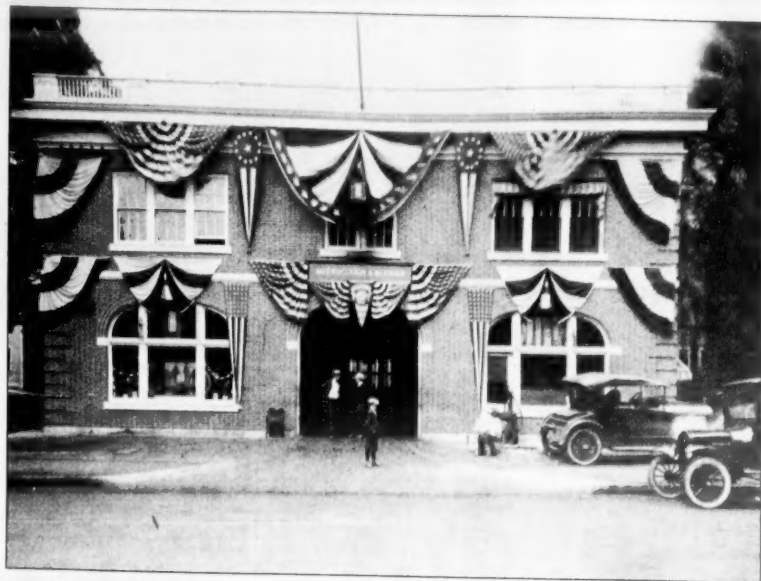
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## IN BRIEF

## PAST AND PRESENT



OLDER PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. MODERN-DAY PHOTO BY TIM JEAN  
In 1919, Joseph Myerscough and Raymond Bachan decked out their garage to welcome home World War I veterans (top photo). Service shops such as theirs became needed on Main Street, Andover (and other main roads), as the automobile grew in popularity. Since 1919, their former building at 90 Main St. has housed a number of other tenants, including today's high-end pizza shop, Bertucci's.

## Cause of fire still being investigated

The cause of the three-alarm fire that resulted in the evacuation of an entire elderly complex is still under investigation.

The Jan. 26 fire at 30 Railroad St. started and was contained in Frances Procacini's fourth-floor apartment at Andover Commons seniors' complex. Procacini and her son, David, endured minor injuries and were the only people taken to the hospital.

"We're going to leave it open for the time being," said Andover Fire Chief Charles H. Murnane Jr., who had no new information to reveal before *Townsmen* deadline.

The investigation is still active and being lead by Deputy Fire Chief Albert Deldotto. According to Murnane, investigators are not looking at any criminal activity, such as arson. Insurance companies involved with the building are also searching for the cause. "We want to make sure we have all our ducks in line before coming forward," Murnane said. "We want to make sure we're on solid ground."

—Andrea Gregory

## Want to build a home? Habitat meets Feb. 9

The Greater Lawrence affiliate of Habitat for Humanity will hold its annual meeting at Grace Church, 35 Jackson Street in Lawrence on Sunday, Feb. 9, and invites prospective volunteers to attend. The two-hour meeting will begin at 5 p.m.

The theme of the meeting is "Partnerships for Building Houses and Hope in the Merrimack Valley." During the meeting, Habitat will recognize outstanding volunteer efforts in 2002, as well as the installation of new officers. In addition, magician Debbie O'Carroll will perform a magic show for children of all ages.

The Lawrence affiliate of Habitat for Humanity was established in 1985. Habitat provides home ownership by offering 20-year no-interest mortgages to their homeowners. All Habitat for Humanity Homes are built with volunteer labor. Interested volunteers should contact the Habitat office about opportunities and are encouraged to attend Habitat Orientation on the second Saturday of the month from 9 to 10:30 a.m. To learn more, visit the Web site at [www.habitat-lawrence.org](http://www.habitat-lawrence.org).

## Giving blood

The uncertainty of the times requires a new commitment to maintain a five to 10 day community blood supply, according to the American Red Cross.

"That's why the Andover community, and the American Red Cross are teaming up to help ensure that a safe and adequate blood supply is available when needed," the organization says in a release. People can donate blood on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Marland Place, 15 Stevens St. Donor hours are 2 to 7 p.m.

## Quote, unquote . . .

**T**HERE WEREN'T ANY TRAFFIC JAMS. There weren't any one-way streets.

—John Simko, who's been in business on Main Street for 28 years, talking about what the downtown area was like when he opened his shop. (Story, page 20)

**I**F SOMEONE CLOSE to me goes, I am sorry and sad, but it is all in God's plan. Life, to a certain extent, is another day at the office.

—Robert King, an Andover teacher considered for a ride on the Challenger space shuttle, who wants the space program to continue. (Column, page 8)

## News Calendar

## Thursday, Feb. 6

Board of Assessors, Town Offices, assessors conference room, 9 a.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, 7 p.m.

## Monday, Feb. 10

Senior Center Task Force, 7 p.m.

Selectmen, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

Andover Housing Partnership Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, Feb. 11

Preservation Commission, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee, budget workshop, school administration building, 7 p.m.

Planning Board, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

Vision 21 Committee, Town Offices, first floor, 7:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Feb. 12

Design Advisory Group, Town Offices, first floor, 6 p.m.

School Improvement Council, Wood Hill Middle School, conference room A, 6:15 p.m.

Patriotic Holiday Committee, Town Offices, assessor's conference room, 7 p.m.

Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Ballardvale Lowell Jct. Traffic Task Force, Town Offices, second floor, 7 p.m.

## Thursday, Feb. 13

Strategic Planning Task Force, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 a.m.

Council on Aging, Town Offices, second floor, 8 a.m.

Pesticide Reduction Task Force, Water Treatment Plant conference room, Rte. 133, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Cable Advisory Committee, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Feb. 15

Zoning Board of Appeals, deliberation meeting, Memorial Hall Library, 10 a.m.

## Tuesday, Feb. 18

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, second floor, 7:45 p.m.

## Wednesday, Feb. 19

Recycling Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7:30 p.m.

## School retirements equal budget savings next year

AD Hurley and arts head Kolben's positions will not be replaced

The retirement of two long-time school administrators will make for budget savings next year. Athletic Director Jim Hurley and fine arts coordinator Diana Kolben will retire during the 2003-2004 school year and their positions will not be replaced.

Hurley's position will be

covered under an interim position held jointly by health coordinator Dave Nichols and physical education coordinator Brian McNally. No announcement has been made as to who will administer to the town's music program.

At School Committee meeting this week, Superintendent

Claudia Bach said that Nichols both had the experience to cover the position and had taken the initiative to help in the budget crunch.

"We thought it would be in the best interest of the town and we thought we could do a good job," said Nichols.

—Ben Hellman

## State moving toward reform on public construction

State Rep. Barry Finegold (D-Andover), who recently filed a construction-bid reform package, has "both words of praise and advice for Governor Mitt Romney and Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey," according to his office. Healey has announced that they were filing legislation calling for three main reforms: allowing for alternate methods of procurement, eliminating the filed sub-bid law, and increasing thresholds for certain guidelines to kick in.

"I think that the administration gets it, they understand the need to clean up the inefficient system we presently have," praised Finegold, who says he's pushing for the first two proposals legislatively, and is a supporter of the third.

However, Finegold warned that the state can-

not be timid about a complete overhaul.

He noted these reforms will not be fully effective unless other, crucial measures pass. These include damages for late projects, and freedom from liability for agencies and towns that do not pick the lowest bidder. "We need to implement punitive measures for those companies that have repeatedly pulled a fast one on us," said Finegold in a release.

"The lowest bidder might not have the best reputation, and we suffer from consistently late projects from contractors who are not affected by the result," he said.

This fall, Andover came close to starting the school year without a planned-for school, due to a delayed construction project.

## Rash of school sicknesses has nurse asking parents not to rush kids back

A spate of student illnesses has motivated elementary schools to ask parents not to send their children to school until they are well.

"Children are returning to school before recovering completely. It is extremely important to keep children home until they are fully recovered," West Elementary nurse Kathy Bartholomew said in a memo to parents.

Flu, fever, colds, strep throat and pneumonia are illnesses causing a large number of student absences. "It's some of the

biggest numbers we've seen," said Superintendent Claudia Bach at the School Committee meeting this week. Bach also urged parents to keep children home until they are well.

Bartholomew said children should be free of fever, vomiting, or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school. If the child is prescribed medication by a doctor, she said it should be taken for 24 hours before returning to school. She also recommended frequent hand washing while at school.

—Ben Hellman

## Hard copy of school budget available for \$16

Budgets were hard to come by at the School Committee meeting this week. School Committee members and business manager Bernie Tuttle denied a copy of the public document to the press immediately after it

was discussed at an open meeting. The budget can be downloaded at [aps1.net](http://aps1.net). Copies will be available at the library and can be purchased for \$16 at the schools' business office.

—Ben Hellman

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Garbage collectors grab trash on Lovejoy Road. A new deal before Andover and local communities will allow them, in 2005, to stop paying twice what most towns are paying.

#### New trash-disposal proposal

## Half the cost eyed by town

Tucker wants more recycling, disposal of toxics

By Andrea Gregory

The North East Solid Waste Committee has an offer on the table and now it's up to the 23 communities involved to decide if it's worth signing a new contract with trash-disposal company Wheelabrator North Andover.

The current agreement has Andover paying \$145 per ton to get rid of its garbage, but Wheelabrator has offered a new contract that will cut the cost in half, beginning in 2005.

Andover is part of a group of communities, called the North East Solid Waste Committee. These NESWC cities and towns "back loaded the debt" for building the North Andover facility and right now owe \$90 million to bond holders, said Shawn Worster, NESWC executive director and a member of NESWC's strategic planning committee. He says that is why the cost to take out the trash is

so high. But in 2005, this will no longer be the case – and Andover seems to be leaning toward continuing to use Wheelabrator.

"I think it's a good proposal now we need to decide which one," said Director of Public Works Jack Petkus.

As reported two weeks ago, the proposal consists of three options, all with rates less than half the current charge:

- A four-year nine-month contract that would cost \$64 per ton for garbage disposal. The cost would rise to \$68, \$69.50 and \$71 in the following years. The cost would be \$73 for the last nine months.

- A two-year nine-month contract that would also start at \$64 per ton. The cost would rise to \$69 in the second year and to \$70 in the last nine months.

- A nine-month contract that would not offer the same savings.

"I would support the

longer," said Petkus. "I like the stability."

For a new contract to be approved, a minimum of 50 percent of the trash tonnage of all NESWC communities needs to be committed into the four-year option and a minimum of 75 percent must be committed to a combination of the two longest options. The contract will fall through if these requirements are not met. Petkus says Andover's carrying a lot of weight in this decision, because it throws away 13,000 tons of garbage per year.

"It appears that there aren't a whole lot of alternatives, certainly not at this price," said state Sen. Sue Tucker.

"We're continuing the evaluation process," said Worster.

The next meeting for NESWC is scheduled for Feb. 25, at which time "the board members will come

Continued on page 6

## BrookRidge Church moving

Doubled rent, more parishioners brings it to Dundee Park

By Judy Wakefield

Skyrocketing rent and a growing congregation have prompted BrookRidge Community Church to relocate to Dundee Park.

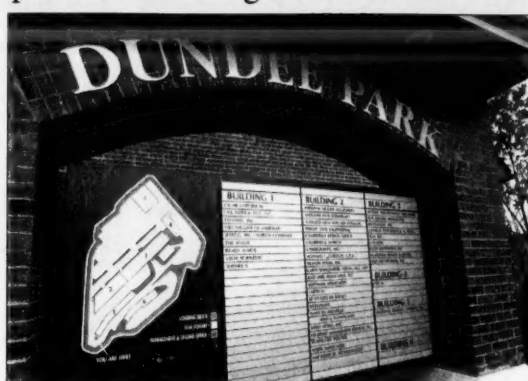
The inter-denominational church was formerly housed at 16 Haverhill St. near Shawheen Square. That property made news last spring when it was foreclosed upon by the town because owners did not pay taxes for several years. Owners eventually paid nearly \$1 million to the town last fall.

Assessment records show the building is owned by Shawheen Village Commerce Center and is assessed at \$1.8 million.

BrookRidge senior pastor, Rev. Stephen M. Squires, said the church was feeling squeezed in the space and the landlord doubled the rent.

"With a doubled rent and a growing congregation, we started to look around," Squires said.

BrookRidge started shopping for space in late 2001, and eventually found some at Dundee Park, located near the Andover train station and the intersection of Essex and Railroad streets. The church moved into 3



BrookRidge Community Church is joining the list of businesses at Dundee Park.

Dundee Park last weekend. Currently, there are about 130 church members, Squires said.

BrookRidge, founded in 1988, was housed on Haverhill Street for eight years. Church members met in schools and other locations in Andover prior to moving to Haverhill Street.

The 15-year-old church prides itself on a "different" church view, Squires said. It sports a slogan that states "a fresh expression of God's love for you," he added. It has adver-

tised itself as "the church for people who have given up on church," for years. It's also known for its contemporary music during services.

"We're still the same BrookRidge," Squires said. "And, in 2003, we are building up and reaching out."

Squires said he didn't know if Dundee Park would be the final home for his church. "But, it's a great opportunity for us and is a big part of our long term plan," he said.

#### Downtown, after school

## Kids: Bagels plug youth-center hole

By Andrea Gregory

By 2:30 p.m., 10 Main St. can look more like a youth drop-in center than a bagel shop.

About 50 preteen kids fill the seats and run around like they're in a gym. The herd breaks down into small groups that will argue, threaten friendships, gossip and giggle about the others. If one asks them, they'll explain the politics of middle school, who is friends with whom, and so on. This is one picture of Andover's after-school youth.

This picture is familiar to many Andover residents. Some Andover youth and some downtown businesses have had periodic conflicts with one another for as long as people can remember.

Employees at Bruegger's Bagel say for years their store has been a designated hang out for middle-school kids on Friday

afternoons, but they're not always pleased about this. Behavioral complaints include the kids' loudness and spitballs, but most of the kids do buy something. The problem seems to be more the number of them than anything else.

"It's tradition," explained one of the kids, who admitted getting kicked out was as much a part of the tradition as showing up.

Many of the kids are loud and messy, and some of them climb over tables. They say the same thing that other Andover kids before them have said, that there is simply nothing else to do in town – at least until a youth center is built. Andover Youth Foundation is working on that (see related story, next page), but a center is at least two years away.

For now, some of these 11-, 12- and 13-year-olds are used to getting kicked out of their down-

town hang outs. But they come back. From a class leader to a class clown, they claim their parents are unaware or wouldn't care if they knew they were getting kicked out of places downtown.

These children eagerly anticipate the youth center. In all seriousness, the rowdiest of the bunch climbed down from a table to pose a youth center as the solution to the store's problems, and to their own. Kids talk excitedly about the promised rock-climbing wall and deejay booth, and know when they're coming. "When we're in 10th grade," one of them said.

The eighth-graders say no one in high school hangs out downtown. They're not sure what they'll do next year, but the year after, when they're in 10th grade, they plan to hang out at the not-yet-built youth center.

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# How much did telethon raise? Drum roll, please...

\$83,000 raised at telethon for youth center; youth services director chokes on fun wing-eating promise

By Judy Wakefield

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey came up real short of downing the 200 wings he promised to eat during a televised buffalo-wing-eating contest. But with the help of such events, Andover Youth Foundation succeeded in raising \$83,000 during its first telethon to raise money for a new youth center.

After some serious trash talking where Fahey predicted he would eat "200 wings in two minutes," he ate less than 10, or less than 5 percent of the promised total.

There was no wing-eating trophy for Fahey and there will also be no shaved head.

The long locked Fahey said he would shave his head if \$100,000 was raised at last week's telethon. The organizers came close to that goal, but Fahey can keep his hair.

Organizers said the telethon was all in the name of fun and those involved are proud of the amount they raised.

"It was the first time we did it and now it's an institution," said Glenn Wilson of Youth Services, who said the telethon will be an annual event to raise money for the new Cormier Family Youth Center.

Wilson was the wing-eating champion, chowing down 10 of them in two minutes.

"The wings weighed a quarter of a pound each. They were huge," he claimed, defending Fahey's dismal performance. But he was still thrilled with his first-place finish in the event.

"Everyone talked a good game but I'm the one who came through," Wilson said proudly.

The wing-eating contest was just one of several events held during the three-day telethon last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights. The event was staged at the Collins Center and carried live on cable televi-



Tough to swallow - Bill Fahey lost the wing-eating contest.



To victor Glenn Wilson went the spoils: food and a trophy.

## How the West Andover youth center was won

The item that brought in the most money at last week's telethon for the new Cormier Family Youth Center was a trip to Germany donated by Bernie Moreno of Andover and Flagship Motor Cars in Somerville. Someone bid \$8,000 for the trip. Other ways the big bucks rolled in included:

- a \$5,000 donation
- \$2,000 for a basketball signed

by Michael Jordan

- \$1,200 for sky box seats at the Fleet Center
- \$1,200 for a men's blazer from Enzo's
- \$1,000 for a piece of the former Boston Garden parquet floor signed by Bill Russell
- one \$1,500 donation
- three donations for \$1,000 apiece

sion for three hours each night, from 6:30 to 9:30.

The \$4.4 million youth center is being built in West Andover through private donations raised by the Andover Youth Foundation. When the center is finished, it will be given to the town, which will pay to run it. Supporters hope to break ground this spring, as more than half of the cost has been raised.

At the telethon, opening night glitches included no audio and no telephone service for a short period

of time. Eventually, both problems were solved and the eight telephones lit up with donations from Andover viewers. An "auction board" was set up and television viewers called to bid on the items. Plus, various local groups performed. The format was modeled after the WGBH telethon.

Peter McLaughlin, an Andover lawyer, served as the master of ceremonies all three nights. The father of two was dressed in a black tuxedo and is suited for the role as he

often serves as master of ceremonies at Andover Service Club events.

"It's all about community support and community awareness for the new youth center. The telethon's success shows that people care about it," said Sheila Stone, a key organizer.

She said about 400 people volunteered for the three-day production and the atmosphere was just plain fun and for a good cause. Scott Worthley of the Collins Center was particularly gracious helping first-time television hosts with their microphones and cue cards, she said.

What offered a lot of fun, she said, was one "challenge." Host Larry Larsen egged-on Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski to make a donation.

"Buzz's wife was challenged to keep him home on a Monday night," Stone said, noting that Mrs. Stapeczynski was asked how much would she donate to the telethon in order to keep her husband home on a Monday night, as meetings always keep him away.

"But, Larry Larsen said she'd pay big bucks to keep him OUT of the house," laughed Stone.

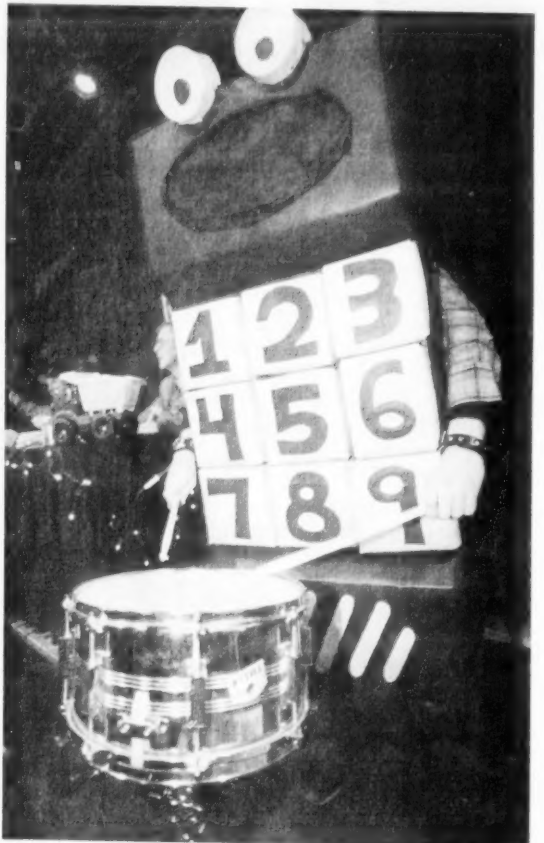
"It was very funny and great to see that side of Buzz," Stone added.

In the end, the Stapeczynskis donated \$250 and there are no strings attached to their donation.

Another fun moment was when School Committeeman Dick Collins, Selectman Ted Teichert and former longtime Selectman Gerry Silverman each paid \$120 to play golf with Andover High principal Principal Peter Anderson at Hopkinton Country Club (donated by Joe Pasquale).

"They are all claiming it to be one of the biggest sacrifices they've ever made," Stone said.

She tossed around a \$100,000



During the telethon, Phoney, the event's mascot, played drum rolls before new dollar totals were broadcast.

goal in the months leading up to the event. But, now says that goal was based on a four-day telethon. She and Fahey had met with Dracut officials, where the annual four-day telethon nets about \$90,000 so \$100K seemed doable.

Andover cut back a day so Stone is thrilled with \$83,000.

"It's not about the money anyway," Stone said. "It was a fun and exciting event and we are already planning for another telethon."

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## ARRESTS

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — At 10:13 p.m., Eddy Castro, 39, of 386 Prospect St., Lawrence, was arrested on Stevens Street and charged with driving with a revoked license and driving an uninsured motor vehicle.

Thursday, Jan. 30 — At 7:15 p.m., Selvin Ramos Herrera, 26, of 1 Fulton St., Lawrence, was arrested on High Street and charged with the unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

At 7:51 p.m., Kenneth Paquette, 27, of 157 Andover St., was arrested at home and charged on a warrant with larceny over \$250.

At 9:42 p.m., Oracio Peres, 18, of 416 Maple St., Manchester, NH, was arrested on Lowell Street and charged with trespassing.

At 10:04 p.m., Lozano Armando, 24, of 930 Massubisic St., Manchester, NH, and Daniel Hernandez, 18, of 221 Lake Ave., Manchester, NH, were also both arrested on Lowell Street and charged with trespassing.

Saturday, Feb. 1 — At 12:38 p.m., Bruce Comeau, 40, of 164 Saratoga St., Lawrence, was

arrested on North Main Street, and charged with driving with a revoked registration, driving with a revoked license and subsequent offense, and driving with an uninsured trailer.

At 10:23 p.m., Dennis Drummond, 49, of 2 College Road, Plymouth, was arrested on Campanelli Road and charged on two warrants for larceny and larceny under \$250.

## BREAKS

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — At 5:40 p.m., a River Road resident reported that his garage had been broken into. Nothing seemed to be missing and the officer reported that someone broke in to find shelter from the cold weather.

Friday, Jan. 31 — At 10:39 a.m., a contractor working at a Whittier Street residence reported what he believed looked like a break and entry.

## THEFTS

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — At 3:14 p.m., a resident reported that his or her rear license plate was stolen.

At 3:26 p.m., a Bullfinch

Drive resident came in to report a case of identity theft.

At 4:05 p.m., an employee from Railroad Street reported his car stereo was stolen out of his truck while he was working.

Thursday, Jan. 30 — At 12:13 p.m., a Pond View Place resident came into the lobby to report some items were stolen out of her car.

Friday, Jan. 31 — At 8:03 a.m., Marilyn Jordan reported a student's backpack had been stolen and recovered. She wanted a record of the theft to be made.

At 1:47 p.m., an employee at Minuteman Road reported his car stereo had been stolen the night before.

At 3:43 p.m., a resident reported his car broken into at Wild Oats.

At 3:54 p.m., a Westford man reported his car stolen on North Main Street.

At 5:18 p.m., a White Buick Lesabre was reportedly broken into on North Main Street.

Monday, Feb. 3 — At 4:26 p.m., a Grandview Terrace resident reported her car was stolen from the parking lot of her home.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, — At 5:48 p.m., a woman reported having her fanny pack grabbed from her car at a gas station on Lowell Street.

At 7:08 p.m., a hotel employee on River Road reported that a guest had his car broken into during the night.

## INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — At 8:49 a.m., a Union Street resident reported that construction work was making pictures fall off the wall and causing general disturbance. An officer found no construction work in the area when he checked.

Friday, Jan. 31 — At 5:45 a.m., a sex offense was reported on North Main Street.

## ACCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — At 3:34 there was a car accident on Route 125 and someone was injured.

Saturday, Feb. 1 — At 11:13 p.m., there was a report of an accident on Dascomb Road. The vehicle was reportedly on fire and someone was injured.

— COMPILED BY BEN HELLMAN

## Andover Police enforce Child Passenger Safety Law

The Andover Police Department will conduct additional traffic enforcement, with special emphasis on safety belt and child safety seat violations, during Child Passenger Safety Week, Feb. 10-16. This enforcement initiative is part of the department's participation in the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau's Click It or Ticket Campaign.

"Our extra traffic enforcement during Child Passenger Safety Week will serve to remind everyone that Massachusetts law requires children 12 and under to be properly restrained in a child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt," said Andover Chief Brian Pattullo. "This is a primary enforcement law, which means an officer can stop a driver for just having a child passenger 12 and under improperly restrained."

Under the Massachusetts child passenger safety law, a driver will be fined \$25 for each child 12 and under that is improperly restrained. The Massachusetts safety belt law applies to children 13 and older as well as to adults. Under this law there is a \$25 fine for each unbelted person.

"Unfortunately, some drivers still don't take seriously their responsibility for ensuring their young passengers are properly restrained," said Nancy J. Luther, Executive Director of the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau. "During Child Passenger Safety Week, state and local police in Massachusetts will take a zero-tolerance approach to those drivers that don't protect children by buckling them up in the proper child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt."

Nationwide traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for children 5 to 14. There were

nine fatalities and approximately 5,000 injuries involving children 12 and under in Massachusetts in 2001.

Child safety seats that are properly installed can reduce the risk of death in a motor vehicle crash by 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers. For maximum protection, children 12 and under should always ride properly restrained in the back seat, away from air bags.

The Andover Police Department and the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau urge parents and other caregivers to follow these four guidelines to keep children safer:

1. Use rear-facing child safety seats for children from birth to 20 to 22 pounds and one year of age. There are "big baby" rear-facing seats for children up to 35 pounds.

2. Use forward-facing child safety seats for children who weigh 20 to 40 pounds. The Massachusetts Child Passenger Safety Law requires children under 5 years old and weighing less than 40 pounds to ride in child safety seats.

3. Use booster seats to properly position safety belts on children weighing 40 to 80 pounds. Children under 5 years old but weighing more than 40 pounds must ride in booster seats.

4. When children are ready for safety belts, make sure they wear them on every trip. Children are ready for a safety belt when they weigh more than 80 pounds and are 4'9" or taller. The Massachusetts child passenger safety law requires children between the ages of 5 and 12 to be properly restrained with safety belts (for maximum safety, a booster seat may be required as described above).

## Garbage

## ■ TRASH COSTS

Continued from page 4

back and outline where they stand," he said.

"2005 seems far, but it's not when it comes to this, because it's happening now," Tucker said, adding the communities she deals with seem to be pleased with the proposal.

"They're happy with the proposal from an economic point of view," she said, but she's concerned that there's no built-in recycling clause. "It's just straight 'x' dollars per ton."

She says there are two things Andover should be considering when it comes to trash disposal and recycling: how much does it cost to do each and how to best dispose of toxic materials.

Because this proposal could make it cheaper to throw away trash than to recycle it, Tucker is concerned people will not have an economic incentive to recycle. "It was my hope with this contract that we could rethink the way we dispose of our trash and have higher recycling goals," said Tucker.

As for disposal of toxic materials, "Mercury and several other toxic substances need to be removed before they get in the trash," she said. "(They) effect the air and water for the Merrimack community."

Andover has two designated times annually when people can dispose of toxic substances, and Tucker says she would like to see a convenient and accessible location in Andover where people would be able to dispose of them year round.

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## Winter hardships

## Town: Frozen ground causing numerous pipes to break

## ■ WATER MAINS

Continued from page 1

of the frost are playing a leading role in the damage. According to Petkus, the frost line in some areas falls deeper than four feet. Soil and moisture levels are contributing factors in many water main breaks, and most water mains are located four feet under the ground, he says.

"When you have frost, it

causes stress and strain on the water pipes," says Stapczynski.

"The chance of freeze up is really low," says Petkus. "More mains break than freeze up."

Because the water in the mains is usually flowing, it does not have a chance to freeze, but Petkus says the service pipes, which run from water mains to buildings, are another story.

"We're having a lot of freeze

up in services," Petkus says. "You can have a freeze up that just blocks the water."

He explained service pipe breaks – and a break occurred at the Historical Society last week – are uncommon. The financial responsibility for fixing service pipes depends on the location of the pipe. Water mains are the more serious problem for the town.

Brady Loop was one of the areas hit with water-main problems, along with Park Street, where local businesses such as Andover Cleaners and Park Street Pub were without water twice in less than a week due to water-main breakage.

Ku Sik Sim owns Andover Cleaners. He says this happens every winter. Last week he was able to keep the dry cleaning service open without water and says episodes like this slightly effect business on the laundromat side, but customers are understanding.

Solving the breaking water mains is not a pipe dream. Today's water mains are made out of ductile iron, but half of

**"Cast iron is brittle to begin with; add cold and it's super brittle."**

JACK PETKUS, DPW DIRECTOR, EXPLAINING WHY ANDOVER HAS SEEN MORE THAN 40 WATER-MAIN BREAKS DURING THIS FRIGID WINTER

has never broken anywhere."

Petkus says all old water mains will eventually be replaced with ductile iron, but, for now, what's known as a "wrap around" is done. Wrap arounds act as giant clamps to stop the water from leaking. Petkus says it's quicker and easier to take out one small section of pipe, instead of replacing an entire street's worth.

"I don't want new pipes, too much work," says Sim, who worries that the time necessary for construction and digging up the road will have a much greater effect on his business than a day or two each winter without water.

Andover's old mains are still cast iron.

"Cast iron is brittle to begin with; add cold and it's super brittle," says Petkus. "To my knowledge a ductile iron pipe

## Town Meeting repair

## Wall holding up Red Spring

By Andrea Gregory

Decades ago the retaining wall on Red Spring Road collapsed, taking part of the street with it. This year, Town Meeting voters will be asked to make sure that doesn't happen again.

Though repairs have been made to the wall on several occasions during the past few decades, this year's warrant calls for the complete replacement of the retaining wall, which town officials say is unstable and possibly unsafe.

The wall runs about 200 feet along Red Spring Road, between Cuba Street and Shawsheen Road, and it keeps the road from crumbling into the Shawsheen River. Selectmen Brian Major and Mary Lyman support this article and call the wall's replacement a matter of safety.

If the article doesn't pass at Town Meeting, closing down the road may be an option. "We're trying not to do that," said Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski. "That's a major east-west road."

The wall's problems are visually obvious, says Director of Public Works Jack Petkus. The wall is supposed to be vertical or even tapered back, but it's currently leaning in the wrong direction. "The bottom of the wall is kicking out," he said. Even with the snow, pedestrians can see the sloping angle.

The wall has not been evaluated yet by an engineer, and Petkus called the \$400,000 asked for in the article a rough number.

If approved, construction could take place as early as next fall. The old mason structure would be replaced with concrete.

"From start to finish it could be a two-year job," said Stapczynski.



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

A retaining wall on Red Spring Road needs to be repaired, or the road may be closed, says Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski.

This is the first time the retaining wall has shown up on the warrant.

"If you're not looking at it

every day it's kind of out-of-sight, out-of-mind," said Petkus. "Unnoticed goes along with neglect."

## BLIZZARD OF '78

## Snowy trek for medicine, plow

## ■ SKIING

Continued from page 1

heard the sound of the backhoe plowing up Tucker Road. Being a narrow road with only a few houses on it, it certainly was not a priority. So we put on our skis again and went to talk with the backhoe operator. For a price, he came up to finish plowing our long driveway. What a welcome sight! We have been forever grateful to the fellow who

helped us reconnect with the world.

Our daughter recovered nicely. But the sense of being trapped in our house with a sick child helped us to realize that we needed to be a little more self sufficient if we were going to live in the country.

— Tina and Andrew Girdwood  
15 Tucker Road

## Bus like an elephant

## ■ BLIZZARD IN BOSTON

Continued from page 1

outside our bedroom window. It looked like an elephant stuck in quicksand trying to rock itself out of its predicament. After about an hour of going back and forth, the driver gave up and abandoned it. They didn't tow it out of there for three days.

We lost all power and heat for 24 hours beginning at around 9 a.m. the morning of Feb. 7. Fortunately, we had a gas stove that could be lit with matches, so we could still eat things like soup. I kept warm by baking a pumpkin pie. It was the best we

ever tasted. We walked to the Newbury Steakhouse on Mass. Ave. that night for dinner. They were only serving cold chicken sandwiches but they had strung bare light bulbs through the dining room, giving it a festive air. That is, until the emergency batteries that were lighting them ran out. Fortunately we were sitting near the windows.

The restaurant where I worked as a waiter was closed for the week. We were paid anyway. Nice!

— Donald McCandless  
20 Ravens Bluff

More stories  
page 21



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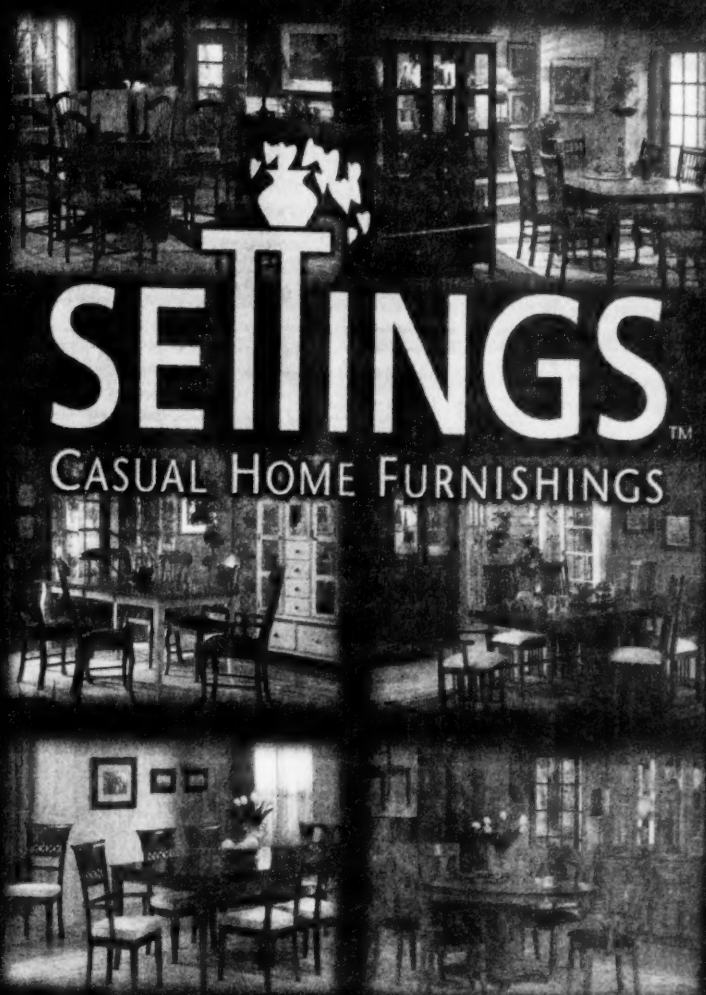
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# Opinion

## Don't need a blizzard to slow down

THE 25th anniversary of the Blizzard of '78, recognized today, Feb. 6, is a day of wide-ranging emotions. But for the vast majority of Andover residents, the deadly blizzard actually brings pleasant memories.

That's because, for most people, the blizzard meant a week off from work and a week to connect with the people around them. Everyone had a chance to meet their neighbors. To have snow ball fights. To pull their grocery bags in sleds and stop and talk in coffee shops, rather than jump in their cars alone and speed off to one project after another. In short, the northeast's get-up-and-go crowd slowed down a bit and realized they liked where they were.

It shouldn't take a blizzard, of course, to get us to take a breath. We can all use time to connect with family, friends or neighbors. We can even do it today, whether a storm comes, or temperatures melt the snow banks covering our front lawns. There's a lot to see outside our offices and on-ramps. Sometimes we just forget to look at it.



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

## Sometimes it's not all about the children



Taylor Armerding

doesn't fudge around.

The president of the Andover Education Association, asked recently if his membership might be willing to delay scheduled raises this year to help the town cope with its fiscal crisis and preserve programs for students, was blunt: "The association is not interested in subsidizing education in Andover."

I think most of us already knew that. Still, it's interesting to hear a teachers union head actually admit that it's only incidentally about the children. It's more about the pay raise.

The way to resolve this problem is with — what else? — another property tax override, Meyers said.

More notes from the "it's-all-about-the-children" files in public education. You've got to give Tom Meyers credit. He

You can hear the override pitch right now. You local taxpayers should dig deep, should sacrifice, whether you've been laid off, had your wages frozen, taken a pay cut or are having trouble paying your mortgage. After all, it's for the kids.

But don't expect union members to give up their 5 percent (on top of 3.1 percent in 2001 and 3.7 percent last year). Don't expect them to accept any erosion in their status as the highest-paid teachers in the region.

It doesn't matter that the contract was negotiated when the economy was much better, and that the union used the robust economy to argue for substantial pay increases. If the School Committee was shortsighted enough to give them 12 percent over three years (well above the inflation rate), tough luck. It's the town's problem. The kids' problem. Definitely not their problem.

In the face of such refreshing honesty, let's hope committee members can remember the lessons of history so they won't be condemned to be so shortsighted again.

Taylor Armerding is a columnist for The Eagle-Tribune Company newspapers.

## PLAYING HOUSE

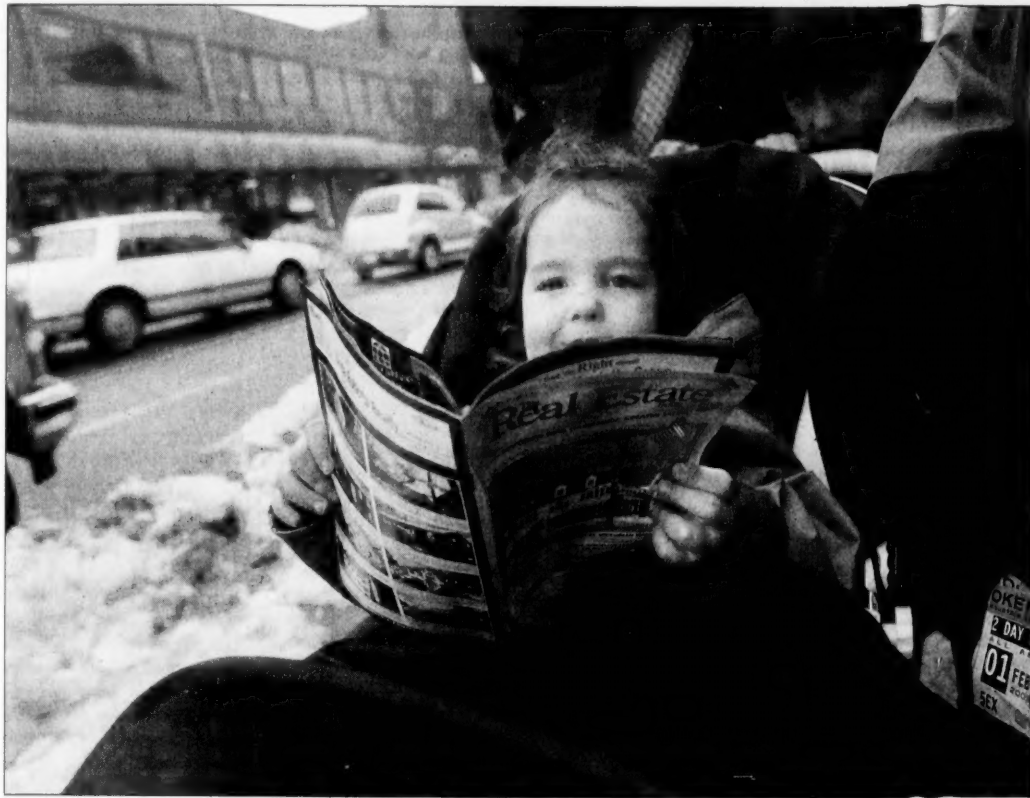


PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Rose Kelly, 3, gets an early jump on learning the lucrative Andover real-estate market, as her mother, Anne, pushes her carriage down Main Street on Tuesday afternoon.

## LETTERS

### Shoveling idea is to offer hand, not handcuffs

Editor, Townsman:

I don't expect my proposed snow removal bylaw to be the most popular article at Town Meeting, but thought I'd try to defend it before it gets snowed under by the Townsman's poll.

As a pedestrian in the downtown area, I've found that sidewalks are often inaccessible during the winter, sometimes weeks after the last snowfall. The town Department of Public Works can take a week or more to plow some sidewalks. In the meantime, some residents and businesses clear their sidewalks and others don't. Some plow snow from their driveways onto the sidewalks, making them impassable, and limiting the town sidewalk plow's effectiveness.

Getting from a crosswalk to a sidewalk often requires scaling or wading through a pile of snow, even after the plow has been through. Ironically, this snow typically covers ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps, which the town installed in recent years to make the sidewalks more accessible.

Andover's bylaws currently require property owners in the Central Business District to clear sidewalks following a snowfall. The article I proposed extends the responsibility to anyone in town who owns property abutting a public sidewalk, unless the town's operations spill snow onto the sidewalk, making removal by the property owner a burden. It requires all property owners to keep sidewalks and crosswalk entrances reasonably clear of ice and snow, and prohibits plowing snow from driveways onto sidewalks.

I'd like to see the town DPW do better job at sidewalk snow removal, but I think it's unrealistic to believe that they can do an adequate job by themselves, given budget constraints. It was in the spirit of cooperation, rather than regulation, that the warrant article was conceived. Recognizing that not everyone can comply, no fines, tickets (nor imprisonment) are advocated for breaking the bylaw, although a written reminder from the town might be appropriate. Certain neighbors may even deserve a helping hand rather than "a dirty look," as the Townsman poll suggested.

I'm open to amending the warrant article and to better solutions, as, I'm sure, are selectmen. I hope that this proposal will raise awareness of the issue and that more residents, merchants, landlords and town employees will be willing to dig in.

Harry Voorhees  
51 Maple Ave.

## Space: Another frontier



Neil Fater

Americans have been admired and despised for their belief in a Manifest Destiny — the idea that they are meant to explore, even conquer, new territories. We believe we deserve more — more land, more wealth, more entertainment, more knowledge. We're both gluttons and explorers. Sometimes, that ain't all bad.

In fact, these passions are rarely better directed than they are in the space program, where the pursuit is for a better understanding of ourselves and our surroundings. That's why the current talk in the wake of the Columbia tragedy — the talk of stopping the space program or ending human flights — will dissipate like a vapor trail.

Yes, our scientists must learn much more before launching and returning space crafts will be as routine as setting an alarm clock. But no one understands this better than the NASA astronauts and scientists, and these are the people who most passionately seek to continue the journey.

Ralph Pass, of Lavender Hill Lane, worked for NASA during the Apollo 11 mission that first put man on the moon, and until 1978, as the shuttle program was being developed. He had the opportunity to talk shop with astronauts on several occasions. "The astronauts looked at it that they wanted to make sure the risks were minimized. Not that it was zero," says Pass. "They understood that there was not an insignificant chance that they wouldn't make it back."

He knows how people will view the current space program decades from now. "They'll look back on it and they'll look at it like we look at the sailing ships that went across the ocean in the 1600s," says Pass.

But he also knows eventually, scientists will find a better way. When Neil Armstrong landed on the moon, NASA was using computers with less memory than today's calculators. Today's shuttles were built with 1980s technology.

"I'm amazed at what they're able to do with what they've got," says Pass. "The fact that they've gotten 117 flights out of (the shuttles) with only two catastrophic mishaps is pretty amazing." When NASA calculated the shuttle risks originally, it figured on one catastrophic event every 75 flights, says Pass. But this is a reason to invest more in NASA, not less, he argues.

"I think it's time for a new space plane," he says. After all, does anyone have a 1980s computer anymore? "How many people have had the same stereo equipment for the last 20 years? How many have the same TV?" he asks.

Robert King of Argilla Road, one of the teachers considered for the 1986 Challenger mission that ended in tragedy, also can't imagine America halting space exploration.

"The idea of stopping the space program is abhorrent to me. It's like saying let's not fund Christopher Columbus before he came to America. There's so many things that come out of the space program: Food, advances in clothing and medicine," says King. "Is this thing worth it in dollars. Yes. The possibility of loss of life?"

"The Navy captain who lost his life — his answer was, 'If I (die) you bring in the next crew.' That doesn't stop the program," says King. "That sounds cold and hard, but if I was lost, I would want it to continue."

King says he's not a profound man, but he knows the commitment to exploration will have profound consequences, even while it has high-profile disasters.

"If someone close to me goes, I am sorry and sad, but it is all in God's plan. Life, to a certain extent, is another day at the office. No matter how tragic these things come, life goes on," says King.

Projects such as the space program ensure that life not just goes on, but forward. Some day, the earth will be uninhabitable, whether from natural or man-made problems, says Pass.

"Even if we don't pollute the earth, even if we don't blow it up with nuclear bombs," says Pass. "we have to be in space eventually. It's millions of years from now. But we have to start sometime."

At the end of our interview, I ask Pass the same question I almost always end with: Is there anything I didn't ask that I should have?

"Yes," said Pass. "If they offer me a shot on the next shuttle, would I go? Heck, yes. I'd be the first one in line. I'm that confident that when they say they've solved the problem, it will be ready."

Neil Fater is editor of the Andover Townsman. He can be reached by e-mail at [nfater@andover-townsman.com](mailto:nfater@andover-townsman.com).

### About "The Thursday File" below

Steve MacDowall started the file two years ago and sent it to 10 people. Today it is sent to more than 10,000 via e-mail.

## THE THURSDAY FILE

We're running over quicksand: If we stand still, we're dead.

JERRY PUTNAM

Do not seek to follow in the footsteps of the men of old; seek what they sought.

MATSUO BASHO

The purpose of art is to lay bare the questions which have been hidden by the answers.

JAMES BALDWIN

I think that people want peace so much that one of these days government had better get out of their way and let them have it.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

An intellectual is someone who can listen to the *William Tell Overture* without thinking of the Lone Ranger.

JOHN CHESSON

One kind word can warm three winter months.

JAPANESE PROVERB

Friendship ... is not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything.

MUHAMMAD ALI

There's lots of opportunities out there in life, but if you never put yourself out on a limb and take chances you'll never dare to be great at anything.

BRIAN GRIESE

Eleanor Roosevelt quotation

It's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.

Best quotation sent

For lack of training, they lacked knowledge. For lack of knowledge, they lacked confidence. For lack of confidence, they lacked victory.

JULIUS CAESAR

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## LETTERS

## Build budget from bottom up; forget unfocused cuts, increases

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Budget cuts of 10 percent across all departments is like taking an ax to town and school services instead of a scalpel. Yet failure to address systemic cost problems by proposing yet another tax override is no real answer either.

There is a better approach that involves thinking strategically about our town and its services. What is really necessary? How are services best delivered? What can be fundamentally changed? How well utilized are the town's and school department's buildings, equipment and employees? Andover needs a new model for doing business; not a continuing churn of budgetary numbers without getting to these fundamentals of spending.

The starting point for constructing this new business model for town and school ser-

vices is to stand outside the existing town and school management and organizational structures, identifying what are the strategic assets of the town in terms of people, equipment and buildings to deliver quality services and programs that ensure:

- Quality schools
- Safe neighborhoods
- Sufficient recreational fields and facilities
- A beautiful, accessible town center

• Well maintained town roads, sidewalks, water and sewer infrastructure

Operating and capital costs should be built up and justified through bottom-up, strategic program and service analysis, not through incremental year-to-year spending comparison that does not adequately relate spending to the value received by town residents. A ranking of

key town programs and services might even show some areas of spending that need increases, not unfocused across the board 10-percent cuts.

Maybe it is time to reconfigure existing school and town buildings or sell some off or lease them out to cut wasteful costs. Maybe the town and school administrative overheads can be greatly simplified and savings made. Maybe certain departments need to be expanded and others eliminated. Maybe there are overlaps and gaps in services and positions between town and school departments or with a neighboring town that could be addressed by broader-based management thinking. What about collaborative pur-

chasing of equipment, supplies and services with neighboring towns? And what about a salary freeze for the next year or two to prevent destructive, across-the-board cuts and wasteful severance payouts?

Andover is at a critical crossroads because many taxpayers have already been hit hard by sharply increased real-estate valuations and related tax bills. Instead of either arbitrary 10-percent budgets or a tax override, what is needed is a new, more efficient business model that is constructed through reevaluation of how the town and school departments do business in so many areas.

John G. Carlson  
One Golden Oaks Lane

## LETTERS POLICY

THE *Townsmen* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsmen* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank-you letters.

It also does not publish letters for candidates in the issue prior to an election.

## How Koh changed public health

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Howard K. Koh, state commissioner of public health since 1997, is leaving his position to join the faculty at Harvard School of Public Health. As he makes the transition from the public to the academic sector, Lawrence General Hospital would like underscore its appreciation for his work by recounting what he has done for us in the Merrimack Valley, where he lives.

His accomplishments are remarkable. Koh led the Department of Public Health (DPH) at a time of unprecedented change. When he took office, Americans had grown somewhat complacent with public health and safety issues. Public health issues plaguing less fortunate areas of the world, like lack of vaccinations and unsanitary conditions, seemed remote.

It took Koh's strong voice to remind us that our own unhealthy behaviors such as overeating, smoking and polluting are the epidemics of the 21st century. His efforts in the areas of disease prevention and health promotion are nationally recognized.

It also took Koh's distinguished leadership to organize the state's public health response after September 11, as officials grappled with old threats made new, such as smallpox.

In the face of such monumental responsibilities, and even though he possesses impressive medical credentials equaled by few physicians in the entire country, Koh remained down-to-earth and accessible to us. When invited, he eagerly addressed gatherings of Lawrence General's medical staff to update them on Department of Public Health initiatives. He was there for us when Lawrence faced a potential health crisis of meningitis in schoolchildren. He frequently visited with local human-service providers and residents to address their concerns.

Committed to diversity and eliminating barriers to health care, he fought for those most in need. Today, communities across the state and in our own Merrimack Valley are healthier because of Koh's service to the Commonwealth. More of the working poor receive preventive, primary care. People are coping more effectively with chronic illness. The emergency medical system is better coordinated. More people take advantage of age-specific screenings to detect diseases like cancer earlier. Fewer babies die.

We wish him success as he moves on to a new phase in his distinguished career.

Joseph S. McManus  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer  
Lawrence General Hospital

## Web question

## Heat change get you hot under collar?

Last week's *Townsmen* Web-site question was:

A resident submitted a Town Meeting article that would require Andover residents to shovel their sidewalks within 16 hours after the end of each snowfall. What do you feel is a reasonable penalty for neglecting to comply with a sidewalk shoveling bylaw?

50 people responded.

• 11, or 22 percent, said "This law deserves strict enforcement and significant fines of at least \$50."

• 13, or 26 percent, said "Fines comparable to parking tickets (\$10 or so) seem appropriate."

• 4, or 8 percent, said "How about just a verbal slap on the wrist and dirty looks from your neighbors?"

• 20, or 40 percent, said "I am planning to vote against this article at Town Meeting."

• 2, or 4, percent said "Other."

This week's question:

As a result of turning down thermostats in Andover schools, \$134,000 will be saved per year. Changing the temperature setting from 70-72 degrees to 68-70 degrees, a seemingly small change, should save big bucks - but is there anything wrong with it?



Harry Voorhees shovels a neighbor's sidewalk.

• I see nothing wrong and if it's saving that much money what's wrong with bringing it down even further. Wearing a sweater never hurt anyone.

• I keep my house between 68 and 70. No one is freezing.

• It's easy enough for kids to get sick. The middle of winter is not the time to start playing around with heat in the school.

• Other.

To cast a vote, surf to [www.andovertownsmen.com](http://www.andovertownsmen.com).



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## OBITUARIES

## Elizabeth L. Buchan

Worked as a reporter for the Andover Townsman

Elizabeth L. "Betty" Buchan, 87, of New Smyrna Beach, Fla., died Monday, Jan. 27 in Halifax Medical Center in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Ms. Buchan was born in Andover. She graduated from Tufts University in Medford and worked as a reporter for the Andover Townsman.

Family members said she worked without pay during the Depression just to gain experience.

She returned to the newspaper after serving in the Women's Army Corps during World War II.

Then, she worked as director of public relations for Ocean Spray in Hanson until retiring in 1965.

She earned a master's degree in journalism and communications from the University of Florida in Gainesville after moving to Reidsville, N.C. in 1966 from Massachusetts.

She became a professor of communication and journalism at Rockingham Community College in Wentworth, N.C. before moving to Florida in 1978. She was a member of the Church of Christ in New Smyrna, past president and member of the American Association of University Women and the membership chairman of the Indian River Community Concert Association in Daytona Beach.

Members of her family include a sister, Margaret Lowe of Andover; a nephew, John Lowe of Andover; and three nieces including Jeannie Stewart of Andover.

Funeral services will be held in Florida.

Arrangements are by Dudley Funeral Home of New Smyrna Beach.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Family Autism Center, 789 Clapboard Tree St., Westwood, MA 02090.

## William J. Beaulieu

Punchard grad worked for insurance company

William J. Beaulieu, 79, of Andover, died Sunday, Feb. 2 at Lawrence General Hospital.

He worked at Commercial Union Insurance Co. for 38 years before retiring.

Born in Boston, he graduated from Punchard High School and graduated from Boston University in 1947.

He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Mr. Beaulieu was a member of St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Andover.

He was a member of the Summit Club at St. Robert's Church, and volunteered at Lawrence General Hospital and Bread & Roses.

Members of his family include his wife, Jean G. (Shinnick) Beaulieu of Andover; and three daughters, Susan Beaulieu of Virginia, Denise Tournas and her husband, George, of Methuen, and Julie Beaulieu-Earnshaw and her husband, Fred, of East Kingston, N.H.

Calling hours were scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover.

A funeral Mass will be said today, Thursday, Feb. 6 at 10 a.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

Burial will be in St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Lawrence.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Volunteer Program at Lawrence General Hospital, 1 General St., Lawrence, MA 01841; or Bread & Roses, 58 Newbury St., Lawrence, MA 01840.

## Kenneth A. Lewis

Retired as manager after working for 35 years at Western Electric

Kenneth A. Lewis, 79, a longtime South Lawrence resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 28 at the Prescott House in North

Andover.

He was born in Andover and graduated from Punchard High School. He served in the US Army during World War II and fought in New Guinea, South Philippines, and Luzon.

He worked for Western Electric for 35 years and retired as a department manager.

Family members said he was an avid golfer, and was active in the Boy Scouts and had been a leader for Troop 13 at Sacred Heart Church.

Mr. Lewis enjoyed camping, skiing, and the ocean, especially while he summered with his family at their home in York Beach, Maine. He attended St. Patrick's Church in Lawrence.

Members of his family include his wife of 60 years, M. Beatrice (Reinhold) Lewis of Lawrence; a daughter, Patricia A. Lewis of Falls Church, Va.; three sons and their wives, Kenneth A. Lewis Jr. and Terri of Enterprise, Ala., Robert H. Lewis and Kathleen of Epping, N.H. and Michael D. Lewis and Eileen of Londonderry, N.H.; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services and burial were private and under the direction of Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, 710 West 168th St., New York, NY 10032.

## David T. Fournier

Former resident was self-employed electrical engineer

David Thomas Fournier, 47, of Franklin, N.H. and a former resident of Andover, died suddenly at his home on Friday, Jan. 31.

He was born in Manchester, N.H. and was the son of Philip R. and Irene D. (Stylianios) Fournier of Gilford, N.H.

He spent his youth in Andover, attending Andover High School and St. John's Preparatory School. He later attended technical school.

He moved to Franklin in 1986 with his parents. He was a self-employed electrical engineer.

In addition to his parents, members of his family include his sister, Denise I. Monroe of North Andover; a niece, nephew, and a great-nephew. His brother, Philip L. Fournier, died in 1992.

## DEATHS

William J. Beaulieu, 79  
Elizabeth L. Buchan, 87  
Genevieve E. Dow, 85  
David Fournier, 47  
Margaret P. Hale, 100  
Kenneth A. Lewis, 79  
Ira R. Levine, M.D.  
Frank A. Mahoney, 81  
Grace Peck, 91  
William C. Smeltzer Jr., 85

## DEATHS ELSEWHERE

DOW - Genevieve E. (Germaine) Dow, 85, of North Andover, died Monday, Feb. 3 at Country Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Newburyport. Members of her family include her daughter, Beverly A. Ouellette of Andover.

LEVINE - Ira R. Levine, M.D., died Friday, Jan. 31 at the Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn. Members of his family include his son, Eli Levine, and two grandsons, all of Andover.

MAHONEY - Frank A. Mahoney, 81, of Lake Helen, Fla. died Friday, Jan. 31 at his home. He worked at Raytheon in Andover, before retiring and moving to Florida.

PECK - Grace (Lyman) Peck, 91, formerly of Peckville, Md., died Saturday, Feb. 1 at Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield. Members of her family include her son, A. William Peck of Andover.

Arrangements were by the Smart Memorial Home of Tilton, N.H.

## Margaret P. Hale

At age 100; calling hours are today

Margaret P. (Brown) Hale, 100, of Andover, died Monday, Feb. 3 at Wingate at Andover.

She was a dressmaker in the custom department at Chandler's in Boston. She taught dressmaking and sewing at Essex Agricultural School for 10 years. She also taught at the Lawrence Practical Arts School from 1924 to 1982, and made dresses for private clientele from 1923 until her retirement.

Born and educated in Wollaston, she graduated from Boston Trade School for Girls in 1920.

She was a member of Christ Church, Andover.

Mrs. Hale was a member of the Essex County Practical Arts Association and, since 1928, she had been a member of Andover Chapter 187, Order of The Eastern Star.

She was also a member of The International Society of Christian Endeavors.

She was the widow of Richard A. Hale.

Members of her family include three cousins and many friends.

Calling hours are today, Feb. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Charles F. Dewhirst Funeral Home, 80 Broadway, Methuen. Funeral services will be tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. in Christ Church. Burial will follow in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospitals for Children, 51 Blossom St., Boston, MA 02114.

## William C. Smeltzer Jr.

Worked as a carpenter; drove a school bus here

William C. Smeltzer Jr., 85, of Andover, died Monday, Feb. 3 at Lawrence General Hospital in Lawrence.

Born and educated in Andover, he was a carpenter for

more than 40 years, and a school bus driver in Andover for five years before retiring.

Members of his family include his wife of over 60 years, Gladys M. Smeltzer; sons, William C. Smeltzer and his wife Rita of Lawrence, James H. Smeltzer of Freemont, N.H., and Richard J. Smeltzer of Salem, N.H.; daughters, Judy C. Julien and her husband Ronald and Joan M. Ferris and her husband David W., both of Andover; sisters, Phyllis Henderson of Andover and Kate Curtis of New York; 17 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours are today, Thursday, Feb. 6 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Charles F. Dewhirst Andover Funeral Home, 33 Pearson St., Andover.

Funeral services will be tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will follow in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Parkinson's Disease Association, Massachusetts Chapter, 720 Harrison Avenue, Suite 707, Boston, MA 02118.

## ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

## 100 Years Ago - 1903

Walking was very difficult on Wednesday morning. Those who got along without a fall had glances of suspicion cast at them by their fellows, who remembered, "the wicked stand in slippery places."

Papers all over the country are commenting on the fact that Lawrence boasts of a one-legged polo player.

A carload of hard coal has recently arrived at the depot for Phillips Academy.

There is a growing liking just now for toilet and desk appliances mounted in carved ivory. The ivory setting is much more distinctive and costly than silver.

## 75 Years Ago - 1928

Women are being appointed in the towns and cities of Essex County to act as community chairmen for the Better Homes in America Movement. The nationwide movement to aid people to secure better homes is under the direction of Herbert Hoover and has spread very rapidly. Mrs. James J. Storow of Lincoln is the State Chairman. Miss Crawford, the Home Demonstration Agent, with other chairmen attended a meeting at the Copley Plaza Hotel on Tuesday, Jan. 24. The meeting was called by Mrs. Storow and was for the purpose of making plans for the campaign which culminates during the week of April 23.

Two foxes were seen playing in

William White's vegetable garden on Andover Street, Monday, by automobilists going to and from Andover.

A fine entertainment is being arranged to take place in the vestry of the Methodist church Thursday evening, in connection with the Home Bakery and Dog Sale scheduled for that night. All entertainment is free.

State-wide Egg-laying Contest: In actual production average per bird in Essex County, the five highest were:

1. H.M. Bolston, Danvers, 15.8 eggs per bird.
2. Homer Rowell, Groveland, 14.6 eggs per bird.
3. R.L.S. Marsch, Beverly, 12.2 eggs per bird.
4. A.S. Pendleton, Ballardvale, 11.1 eggs per bird.
5. Robert Parkhurst, Boxford, 10.5 eggs per bird.

James Marshall, who was knocked down by a truck on Elm Street Monday morning and taken to Lawrence General Hospital for treatment, was brought to his home on Washington Avenue in the fire department ambulance on Wednesday.

## 25 Years Ago - 1978

A crippling snowstorm that dumped a record-breaking 30 inches of snow in the area Monday and Tuesday, helped along with almost hurricane-force winds at times, found Andover residents in a spirit of complete co-operation.

The school committee launched its second pass at the budget last week by lopping a quick \$78,300 from the maintenance expenses, then lauded Plant Engineer Al Hart for his efforts to bring costs down. Hart had further cost savings in mind when he asked to committee to add two workers to his department - a full-time painter and a mechanic's helper.

- Compiled by Townsman interns Evan Greer and Kyra Auffermann

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# Townspeople

## TOWN TALK

### Coming to order

Frustrated with how School Committee meetings are run, member Christopher Smith has given his fellow members copies of the *Robert's Rules of Order* book.

At a recent meeting, the School Committee got lost in the process of making an amendment to an amendment, and eventually no one could remember what action was taking place, said Smith. The rules book given by Smith explains parliamentary procedure, a set of rules for conduct at meetings, meant to allow everyone to be heard and to make decisions without confusion.

Smith also wants to speed up meetings. Smith, whose wife is expecting a baby soon, said, "If our meetings ran just a tad shorter, maybe I'll be able to make it home to the delivery."

— Ben Hellman



Christopher Smith

### Bowling for scholars

The annual Academic Bowl for local middle-schoolers has kicked off with two of Andover's middle schools tied for first place.

The Academic Bowl pairs schools from different communities to form teams.

Six matches have been played and Doherty Middle and West Middle schools are tops, so far. Doherty is paired with Parthum School of Lawrence, while West is paired with the Guilmette School, also of Lawrence. Both are posting a 2-0 record. Wood Hill Middle School is paired with Frost School of Lawrence and has played just one match so far. The team came up short at their first game.

Questions are based on what the students are learning in school, plus current events, the presidents of the United States, American history through the mid-19th century, and the geography, history and culture of 14 states selected by the participating schools.

Andover is among 14 middle schools taking part in the Bowl, which aims to "promote academic excellence and fostering teamwork between neighboring communities," according to Jim McConaughy of Andover, who works for the Greater Lawrence Education Collaborative and has been running the Bowl since 1987.

For a peek at questions and standings, check out the academic bowl Web site: [www.glec.org/academicbowl](http://www.glec.org/academicbowl).

— Judy Wakefield

### And, the winner is...

Organizers of last week's first-ever Andover telethon benefit for the new youth center wanted to do something special for a special behind-the-scenes producer.

They came up with the Golden Phoney Award, given to Wes Murphy who works at Channel 8, Andover's community television station.

Murphy was awarded the golden phone, complete with an antenna and mounted on a base, on the last night of the three-day event.

"It was a minute-by-minute schedule, extremely complicated, and our very first time," said organizer Sheila Stone. "Wes was great."

— Judy Wakefield

### Grandmaster flash: Your move...

The Andover High School Chess Club will host a US Chess Champion next Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Grandmaster Larry Christiansen will lecture the club and dozens of other interested players of all ages, beginning at 3 p.m. at the High School. His address will be followed by a 40-board simultaneous play. The lecture is an open and free event, and all are invited to attend.

Also, a few slots still remain available for players interested in joining in the "simul." Otherwise, all are welcome to stay and watch the games. Those playing are requested to donate \$3.50 to help defray the cost of the grandmaster's appearance. "Don't miss this exciting opportunity to rub elbows with and play against one of chess's greats," said Jeff Smidt, president of Andover High. For more information, call Chet Orban at Andover High School at 978-623-8617.

### Top Docs List: Take Two — and call us in the morning

Last week, an Andover doctor was mentioned as having been listed in *Boston* magazine as one of Boston's top doctors. However, Dr. John Saryan, another resident, was listed in magazine but was not mentioned in their press release, or the Town Talk item.

Dr. John Saryan has been an allergist/immunologist at Lahey Clinic for more than 20 years. He's also on part-time staff at Children's Hospital. Currently the president of the New England Society of Allergists, he lives in Andover with his wife, Debbie, and three daughters Diana, Valerie and Melanie.

### Teddy bear deposits wanted

Danvers Savings Bank is currently collecting Teddy bears at nine of its 12 locations, to help disadvantaged children through programs like the Department of Social Services' Bear Hugs.

When children are removed from troubled or unsafe homes, organizations like DSS provide each child with a backpack containing a toothbrush, a Teddy bear, and other necessities to help ease the transition on the first night away from home.

Danvers Savings Bank will be collecting Teddy bears of any size throughout February, with the only stipulation that the bears be brand new.

Teddy bears can be dropped off at Danvers Savings Bank branches, including 18 Central St.

For more information, contact Cheryl Purinton at 978-739-0210.

## Trading scripts for Scripture

Soap opera star will perform biblical text Monday at St. Robert's

By Andrea Gregory

FRANK RUNYEON HAS TRADED HIS days of taping make-out scenes with famous soap-opera actresses for evenings performing religious drama live in local churches — including one in Andover this Monday.

"How many times can you get married and remarried?" asks Runyeon about his soap opera days.

Runyeon once co-starred with Meg Ryan, and has received two Emmys for his daytime performances.

But after 10 years of working 12 to 14 hours almost every day in the world of television, he decided to take his career down a different path. That path will run through Andover next week.

Runyeon will be coming to St. Robert Bellarmine Church this Monday to perform his interpretation of Sermon on the Mount and a shortened version of "Hollywood vs. Faith," a comical work meant to expose what he considers "the three big lies of Hollywood."

This is one of Runyeon's five one-man performances of biblical texts, and he plans on adding a sixth. He received a bachelor's degree in religion from Princeton University and earned his master's at Yale Divinity School and the General Theological Seminary in New York.

Runyeon switched from doing racy television scenes to performing biblical scenes as a result of several life events. He said his college roommate committed suicide, and he almost lost his son; both events had a



Frank Runyeon is taking a break from Hollywood.

substantial effect on him.

"You begin to wonder if there are stories you can tell that are more nourishing for your audience," he said.

With this background, Runyeon launched his religious side project — a side job that

has become his current career.

"We tend to just live a way of life that's taught by the media," he said. "I think there is a hunger for more nourishing stories."

Runyeon says he's not sure if his Hollywood days are over. According to him, the offers are still coming in, but he's currently happy with what he's doing.

"I like to be sort of open to what I'm doing day by day," he said.

In his last television role, Runyeon played a priest. He was "Father Tom" on *Melrose Place*.

He admits shows like *Melrose Place* are entertaining, but at the same time calls them silly. But playing a priest called to comfort another character diagnosed with a brain tumor was a significantly different role for Runyeon, who is usually asked to play less wholesome characters on TV.

He said he's too often characterized as a womanizing drug dealer.

"I don't want to play that," he said. "Very little of what's being produced in Hollywood is worth doing."

According to Runyeon, there is no script more worth doing than holy scripture, and, for now at least, his 150 shows per year in 42 states are keeping Hollywood on hold.

Runyeon's Andover appearance at the St. Robert Bellarmine Church is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10. It is open to the public and free to attend.

For more information call 978-683-8922.

## ON THE SCENE

### Addison Gallery reception focuses on works by Sol LeWitt

He's one of the best-represented artists at the Addison

IT WAS 1993 REVISITED at the Addison Gallery of American Art last Friday — and stepping back in time was fine with Andover watercolorist Carmel Rodriguez-Walter.

Rodriguez-Walter was there 10 years ago when every wall of the Addison Gallery at Phillips Academy was covered with works by contemporary artist Sol LeWitt. He's a crowd favorite, and now he's featured again at the Addison, which had its opening reception for its winter exhibits Friday night.

LeWitt is one of the best-represented artists in the Addison collection. The Addison has 42 works by LeWitt, from the 1960s to the present and representing all media.

Like many LeWitt admirers, Rodriguez-Walter is thrilled. "I adore this," she said while viewing LeWitt



ON THE SCENE

Judy Wakefield

"What's most exciting is to see all of the layers," said Rodriguez-Walter, who was pointing out the details of the piece to friends Jim and Dave Wright.

LeWitt changes directions and takes a much looser, loopy approach with a very large piece appropriately called *Loopy Doopy*. Painted bright orange and green, it's located directly across from a compass wall drawing.

Viewers were certainly enjoying the contrast between the six wall drawings and the colorful *Loopy Doopy*, much to the delight of gallery director Adam Weinberg. He was like a proud father at the opening reception, talking about LeWitt's strong, vibrant presence in the gallery and how it "took the family of Addison" to put the show together.

"This started out as plans for a nice little drawing show," Weinberg said.

Some 150 pieces were selected and eventually cut down to fit the show space at the Addison. LeWitt's current



Rob Amesbury and Bree Archambault look over the artwork Friday night at the Addison Gallery.



Gallery-goers stand in front of artist Sol LeWitt's large-format *Loopy Doopy*.

Carmel Rodriguez-Walter of Andover, who came to the Addison Gallery a decade ago for a show by contemporary artist Sol LeWitt, points out details of one of his pieces to her friends Jim and Dave Wright.

exhibit, called "Recent Acquisitions," features six wall drawings, five works on paper and two cement-block structures. It is among three exhibits that just opened for the gallery's winter season. The other two exhibits feature signature pieces at the Addison. This three-exhibit show continues through April.



Photo by Tim Jean



## MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY NEWS

By Norma Gammon  
Community service coordinator,  
Memorial Hall Library



### CULTURAL EVENTS

All events are free.

### AN AFTERNOON OF COMEDY

Allison Williams, vocalist and  
Carol Dehne, piano

Feb. 9, 2 p.m.

Allison Williams moved from Chicago, Ill. to the greater Boston area in the summer of 2000 to advance her career as a musician. Williams began her singing career at the age of 14, when she first recorded a commercial for the Paul Harvey Radio Show.

The recipient of several highly regarded music scholarships and awards, Williams continued her education at Interlochen Arts Academy Summer Program and Carnegie Mellon University. Williams has sung under the baton of acclaimed conductors Robert Shaw, William Ferris and Susan Devaney Wyner.

### FISH ON! ANDOVER 2003

Feb. 11, 7 p.m.

### FISHING AND MORE FISHING!

Fishing with TV personality Trevor Goudy. Excerpts from his TV programs: ESPN's *Outthere* and *Outdoor Life's Days of a Sportsman*

Feb. 18, 7 p.m.

### THE MAD FISHERMAN: HAVING FUN WHILE FISHING FOR LARGE and SMALL MOUTH BASS with Charlie Moore

Charlie Moore is a host on NESN Outdoor television and a professional bass fisherman.

More than 750 people attended Memorial Hall Library's fishing program last year. ▶

Feb. 24, 7 p.m.

### ASK A GUIDE! WHERE, WHEN and HOW TO CATCH STRIPED BASS and BLUEFISH with Capt. Bob Zieba

Bob Zieba owns Tin Cup Charters, and has been a fishing guide on the Merrimack River and Plum Island area for 35 years. Come and see if you can win a fishing charter for a day.

### MORNING BOOK DISCUSSION

Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.

FLUSH, Vivian O'Neill

### GREAT BOOKS

Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.

EXODUS, Bible, King James edition

### EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION

Feb. 10, 7:15 p.m.

GRAPES OF WRATH, John Steinbeck

### CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASSES:

Every Monday, 10 a.m.-noon  
Through March 24

### ARTIST OF THE MONTH: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Matthew Gold is an Andover resident and behavioral neurologist with practices in Newton and Everett. He is currently president of the Massachusetts Neurological Association. He has a long-term interest in photography (perhaps engendered by his mother's interest in home movies), concentrating on composition, form and contrast. This is the first public exhibit of his works.

Karen Jacobs Gold is an Andover resident and professor of occupational therapy at Boston University. International travel and the Southwestern artist Georgia O'Keeffe, have inspired her photographic images of flowers. This is the first public exhibit of her works as well.



### CHILDREN'S ROOM NEWS

This month the Children's Room at Memorial Hall Library will once again offer a half hour storytime for toddlers and their parents or caregivers.

Make Way for Toddlers participants will listen to simple stories, play games, and sing songs with the goal of promoting language development and listening skills. Throughout the session themes most enjoyed by this age group will be explored.

Five-week sessions began this week:

• Tuesdays at 9:30-10 a.m. and 10:30-11 a.m.

• Wednesdays at 9:30-10 a.m. and 10:30-11 a.m.

• Thursdays at 9:30-10 and 10:30-11 a.m.

Space is limited so register now by visiting The Children's Room. For more information about Children's Room programs, call 978-623-8401, Ext. 39.

### NEW TITLES AVAILABLE IN eAUDIO

Check out these current audiobook bestsellers now available quickly on cool mp3 players:

Hard Eight by Janet Evanovich  
Catch Me If You Can by Frank W. Abagnale

Confessions of a Dangerous Mind by Chuck Barris  
The Deception of A.J. Lewinter by Robert Littell

Four Blind Mice by James Patterson  
Bush at War by Bob Woodward

Lucky by Alice Sebold  
Check out the library's Web site: [www.mhl.org/collections/eaudio](http://www.mhl.org/collections/eaudio).

## BIRTHS

**CALABRITTO** - A son, Ethan Park Calabritto, born to Elizabeth (Streeter) and Edward Francis Calabritto Jr., of Buxton Ct. on Dec. 31. Grandparents are Gary and Mary Streeter of Andover, Ed and Pat Calabritto of Bellmore, N.Y. and Diane Calabritto of Levittown, N.Y.

**HAHESY** - A daughter, Tess Elizabeth Hahesy, born to Andrea (Georgian) and Paul Francis Hahesy of Townsend on Jan. 5. Grandparents are Colleen and Ted Georgian of Andover and Geraldyn and Paul Hahesy of Duxbury. Great-grandparents are Tarr and Andy Basen of Portsmouth, N.H. and Edwina Cassidy of Revere. Tess joins Emma Nicole Hahesy, 2.

**HORAN** - A son, Aidan Stephen Horan, born to Carrie (Lumley) and William Andrew Horan of Bradford on Jan. 7. Grandparents are Stephen and Jean Lumley of Andover and Jeannine Bartos of Charlotte, N.C. Aidan joins Alexis Susanne Horan, 14 months.

**KEIPER** - A daughter, Lydia Irene Keiper, born to Matthew and Paula Keiper of Andover on Nov. 17. Grandparents are Doug and Bonnie Keiper of Atkins, Iowa and Paul and Barb Welch of Livingston, Texas. Lydia joins big sister, Kaitlin Keiper.

**KIMBALL** - A son, Craig James Kimball, born to Scott and Catriona Kimball of Salem, MA. on Jan. 17. Grandparents are Walt and Gwen Kimball of Andover and Ian and Gillian Grant of Perth, Scotland. Great-grandparents are Virginia Kimball of Andover and George Smith of Forfar, Scotland. Craig joins big brother, Stuart.

**KINDLAN** - Twin daughters, Allison Helena Kindlan and Emma Rose Kindlan, born to Sandra (Greenaway) and Brian Kindlan of Cuba St. on Jan. 24. Grandparents are Nancy Greenaway of New Canaan, Conn., William Greenaway of Venice, Fla., Mary Kindlan and the late Hugh Kindlan of North Chelmsford. Allison and Emma join big sister, Siobhan, 3.

**KIRK** - A son, Matthew Macgregor Kirk, born to Jessica (DeMoulas) and Andrew Christopher Kirk of Tynsborough on Jan. 9. Grandparents are D.J. and Susan DeMoulas of Andover and Anne and John Whelton of Wilmington.

**KOBELSKI** - A son, Timothy Joseph Kobelski, born to Jane (Comeau) and G. Brian Timothy Kobelski of Sutherland Street on Dec. 24. Grandparents are Joe and Joan Comeau of Andover and Gerald and Carol Kobelski.

ki of Tewksbury. Timothy joins Margaret, Elizabeth and Abigail.

**MLARNEY** - A daughter, Anna Elizabeth McLarney, born to Kristin (Wilson) and Patrick Joseph McLarney of Methuen. Grandparents are Cornelius and Barbara McLarney, and Alan and Jane Wilson, all of Andover. Anna joins sister, Addison Jane.

**NOVACK** - A daughter, Ainsley Amanda Novack, born to Scott and Lisa Novack of Boxford on Jan. 4. Grandparents are Allan and Leena Minkinen of Andover and Robert and Deborah Novack of Sanford, Maine.

**O'CONNOR** - A son, Seamus Doyle O'Connor, born to Kelly (Ross) and Michael F. O'Connor of Shipman Road on Dec. 31. Grandparents are Paul and Edie McKinnon of

Merrimack, Joseph Ross of Lowell and Carole and John O'Connor of Andover. Seamus joins big brothers, Micheal and Keegan.

**SMITH** - A daughter, Haley Drew Smith, born to Lori (Armon) and Michael Smith of Melrose on Jan. 17 at Mass. General Hospital. Grandparents are Mary and Don Smith of Andover. Lois Armon of Bensalem, Pa. and Joe and Simone Armon also of Bensalem, Pa.

**TRAVAGLIA** - A daughter, Camille Lea Travaglia, born to Nathalie (Lagace) and Laurence A. Travaglia on Jan. 14. Grandparents are Robert and Therese Lagace of Salem, N.H. and Lawrence and Eileen Travaglia of Huntington, N.Y. Camille joins Alec, 18 months.

## FIRST BIRTHDAYS

~ 2003 KEY DATES ~

### ISSUE DATE

Feb. 27  
March 27  
April 24  
May 29  
June 26  
July 31  
Aug. 28  
Sept. 25  
Oct. 30  
Nov. 27  
Dec. 25

### PHOTO DEADLINE

Feb. 21  
March 21  
April 18  
May 23  
June 20  
July 25  
Aug. 22  
Sept. 19  
Oct. 24  
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# Education

## Andover School of Montessori selects new head of school

ALEX MURENIA of Wallingford, Conn. has been selected by the board of directors of the Andover School of Montessori as its new head of school. Murenia is a career educator with 21 years experience in private school administration and teaching. His appointment is effective July 1.

Murenia was selected after an extensive search process that began in August 2002. He is currently the assistant headmaster for academic affairs at Cheshire Academy in Cheshire, Conn. and has also served as its director of alumni and development. Prior to arriving at Cheshire in 1997, he was the head of upper school at St. Margaret's McTernan School in Waterbury, Conn. He has also been the head of upper school at Rocky Hill School in East Greenwich, R.I. (1994-97), and academic dean at Sanford School in Hockessin, Del. (1990-93). Murenia holds a master of arts degree from Cornell University and a bachelor of arts degree from Trinity College. He also attended Choate Preparatory School in Wallingford.

Murenia succeeds Richmond Abbe, who is leaving ASM after five years as its executive director to become the head of school for the Burgundy Farm Country Day School in Alexandria, Va.

The Andover School of Montessori was founded in 1975. It provides education for students from pre-school (age 3) to middle school (age 14). The mission of school is to prepare students to be life-long learners and responsible citizens of the world community. According to the school, "Through the use of Montessori methods and philosophy, and individualized approach in multi-age groupings encourages developmentally appropriate learning of academics, and social and life skills. All children are given the freedom - in a structured environment that is nurturing, child-centered and supportive - to develop their gifts and pursue their interests while also learning the incumbent responsibilities."

In the past three years the Andover School of Montessori has doubled its size with the addition of new classrooms, a library, science lab, art room, and common room. It also expanded programatically to add an upper elementary and middle school program. The school organizes itself around four age groupings: children's house, ages 3 through 6; lower elementary, ages 6 through 9; upper elementary, ages 9 through 12; and middle school, ages 12 through 14. Andover School of Montessori is fully affiliated with the American Montessori Society and has a membership in the Montessori Schools of Massachusetts.

The Andover School of Montessori is accepting applications for admission. Information can be found on the ASM Web site at [www.andomon.org](http://www.andomon.org); or by calling the school at 978-475-2299.

## RUMORS ADDRESSED

## Shawsheen to remain as K-2 magnet

By Ben Hellman

RESPONDING TO RUMORS about the future of Shawsheen School, Principal Moira O'Brien has assured parents that Shawsheen will be open and continue next year as a magnet school for children in kindergarten through grade 2.

"I was assured in writing that (Shawsheen) would stay the same," said O'Brien. The principal was dispelling rumors that the school might be closed for budgetary reasons, or modified to house Andover's all-day kindergarten classes.

The news came as a relief to returning parents who showed up at an open house to answer prospective parents' questions. Any Andover parent of a kindergarten, first-grade or second-grade student can try to send their child to either the Shawsheen primary or to their neighborhood elementary school.

After second grade, children who attend Shawsheen are taught in their neighborhood elementary schools.

Parents at last week's open house praised the Shawsheen option.

"I love Shawsheen. I'm going to have a few more children just to send them here," said parent Dana Campbell, talking to prospective parents. Campbell has a kindergartner and a second-grader at the school and a younger child she will send to Shawsheen.

"For the little guys, it feels like a little school for little kids," said Campbell. What makes the school special is its smaller community, ability to focus on specific age groups and the opportunity for second-graders to be the oldest kids at school, according to Campbell and other Shawsheen community members.

Second-grade teacher Nancy Ghirardini has taught in Andover for 18 years, and has been teaching at Shawsheen since it became a K-2 magnet school. She compared the school to *Cheers*, the fictional



PHOTOS BY TIM JEAN

At last week's open house, teachers (in back) and parents applaud Principal Moira O'Brien's announcement that Shawsheen School will continue next year as a magnet school for kindergarten through second grade.



William Huisman examines the second-grade work of his daughter, Daitlin, in Susan Infantine's classroom at Shawsheen School. Parents were welcomed into their children's classrooms during last week's open house at the school.

bar on the NBC-TV comedy by the same name, because she says every teacher knows all the kids by name. "It's a warm, nurturing place for little kids," said

Ghirardini.

Registration forms for Shawsheen School will go out in the mail this week to all families on the Andover census who have

kindergarten children.

Registration night for Andover's only choice K-2 school is Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

## ON CAMPUS

The University of New Hampshire has issued its dean's list for the fall semester. This list includes names of local students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during the semester.

The dean's list has three categories of honors. Highest honors were awarded to students who earned a semester grade-point average of 3.7 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.5 to a 3.69 average were awarded high honors, and students whose grades averaged 3.2 through 3.49 were awarded honors.

The names of UNH honor students from Andover include:

Highest honors: Susan Anderson and Lisa Chang;

High honors: Michael Blinn, Crystal Sannella and Michael Simpson;

Honors: Andrew Bellistri, Eric Donahue, Kathryn

Henry, Matthew Redmond, Michael Sheehy and Laurie Willey.

Courtney Sullivan of Andover is participating in the Bates College Junior Semester Abroad (JSA) program.

Sullivan, a psychology major, is studying in Valencia, Spain.

Students at Bates have the option of taking a semester or full year in a foreign country. Both programs provide them opportunities to study and conduct research at their choice of hundreds of colleges and universities throughout the world.

Some students at Bates enroll independently at the foreign university of their choice, while others take the option of foreign-study programs at other accredited American colleges.

Sullivan, the daughter of Michael and Susan Sullivan,

Continued on page 15

## SCHOOL TALK

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, Parent to Parent will present a panel presentation called "Internet Safety."

Today, most kids have access to a personal computer and the Internet. Even if they don't have a computer at home, children will still have access to the Internet at school, the library or at a friend's house. The Internet, growing rapidly, is a source of many educational and enriching sites for both adults and children. However, there are some aspects of its use that can be problematic. From instant message and chat rooms

to inappropriate areas of the Net, supervising kids' computer usage can be a challenge for parents.

Though there are many helpful products to try to protect kids and monitor their Internet usage, none is as foolproof and has the success rate of an informed and watchful parent, organizers said. By learning about the Internet's possible hazards to young people, parents may never know more about computers than their kids, but will know enough to teach them safe computing habits.

Come join the discussion with our panel of experts, gain information and have your questions answered. This event is free and open to the public. It will be held at the South School Media Center from 7:30-9 p.m. The snow date is on Feb. 13.

There will be a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting at Andover High School this Monday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m., in the AHS Media Center.

Principal Peter Anderson will give a school update.

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West Middle School writers at the launch party included, from left: Maura Ryan, Emma Kleckhafer, Hilda Buss, Julie Ouellette, James Callery, Ian Dempsey and Zach Jordan.

## Launch party for Apple Sauce

### Works by local middle-schoolers saluted

By Judy Wakefield

IT WAS STANDING-ROOM ONLY at last Thursday night's launch party for literary works by Andover middle-schoolers.

Seventh and eighth-grade writers from Andover's three middle schools and their parents were among the packed-house audience in the Kemper Theater at Phillips Academy who enjoyed a short reception and readings by many of the teens. Topics ranged from feelings about the Sept. 11 tragedy to reflections on growing up to family memories.

It's all part of *Apple Sauce*, a semiannual literary magazine showcasing literary and creative talents of local teens. The Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative publishes *Apple*



Editor Jim McConaughy of Andover shows a copy of *Apple Sauce* to Doherty Middle School English teacher Catherine Cannon-Francis, also of Andover.

*Sauce*, which also includes works by middle-schoolers from four other towns.

It was started three years ago and gets bigger every year, according to editor Jim McConaughy of Andover.

"There's an explosion of great writing here," he said of the latest issue.

"I've got to hand it to the teachers," he said. "They do so much to encourage writing and it's great."

## SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, Feb. 10-14:

### Elementary schools

**Monday:** Chicken McSchool, nachos with taco meat and cheese, pizza stick with soft pretzel, peas, applesauce and milk.

**Tuesday:** Roast turkey dinner, waffles with sliced ham, baked chicken nuggets, mashed potato, peaches and milk. Lucky tray day.

**Wednesday:** Rib-b-que dippers, pizza ring with marinara sauce, hot dog on a roll, green beans, fruit cocktail, milk, jello with fruit and cocktail.

**Thursday:** Fun fish nuggets with puffs, french toast with sausage, mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, potato smiles, strawberries and milk.

**Friday:** Toasted cheese sandwich with soup, baked chicken nuggets, slice of pizza, green beans, pears and milk.

### Doherty Middle School

**Monday:** Pizza stick with two soft pretzels, baked chicken nuggets, mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, peas, applesauce and milk.

**Tuesday:** Roast turkey dinner, rib-b-que dippers, stuffed crust pizza, mashed potato, peaches and milk.

**Wednesday:** Baked macaroni and cheese.

meatball sub, chocolate chip pancakes, corn, mixed fruit and white cake with chocolate frosting. Lucky tray day.

**Thursday:** Two egg McMuffins, two hot dogs with chips, chicken McSchool, carrots, pineapple and milk.

**Friday:** Chicken and gravy over rice, baked chicken nuggets, stuffed crust pizza, green beans, pears and milk.

### Secondary schools

**Monday:** Meatloaf with gravy, chicken, broccoli and ziti, stuffed crust pizza, peas, applesauce and milk.

**Tuesday:** Roast turkey dinner, rotini with meat sauce, bakery pizza, mashed potato, peaches and milk.

**Wednesday:** Baked macaroni and cheese, spaghetti ilio olio, stuffed crust pizza, corn, mixed fruit, milk and pudding.

**Thursday:** Pot roast dinner, American chop suey, bakery pizza, green beans, pears and milk.

**Friday:** Two hot dogs with chips, spaghetti and meatballs, stuffed crust pizza, carrots, pineapple and milk.

Menus subject to change. Lunch prices are: Elementary student \$1.50; adult \$2.25. Secondary student \$1.75 or \$2.50; adult \$2.50 or \$3.25.

Questions? Call Karen Pappa at 978-623-8623.

## ON CAMPUS

### COURTNEY SULLIVAN

Continued from page 14

238 South Main St., is a member of the Bates riding club. A 2000 graduate of Brooks School, she is a member of the women's lacrosse and outdoor track teams at Bates.

Two Bates College students from Andover, sophomore Robin Karfunkel and first-year student Eliza Roberts, volunteered for "Une Fete des Artes."

In cooperation with the cities of Lewiston and Auburn, the Bates College Leadership Academy premiered this community arts festival along the Androscoggin River in the fall.

Une Fete des Artes featured local talent from the region at large, including local schools and Bates itself. It was seen as a way to build community and underscore the growing connection between the college and the community.

Karfunkel, the daughter of Perry and Lois Karfunkel, 22 Orchard Crossing, is a 2001 graduate of Andover High School. Karfunkel is a dean's list student.

Roberts, the daughter of Michael and Jane Roberts, 26 Spring Grove Road, is a 2002 graduate of Phillips Academy Andover. Both contributed to a total of 175 hours volunteered for the arts festival by Bates students.

Among the attractions were a sidewalk art festival and performances that included music, theater, and dance.

## More Wood Hill students named to honor roll

Some students were inadvertently left off the first-term honor roll supplied by Wood Hill Middle School. The honor roll was published in the Jan. 23 issue of the *Townsmen*.

The following students were also named to the honor roll at the school:

Grade 7, high honors: Betsy Cohen.

Grade 8, honors: Corey Bourque and Lindsey Burgess.

## Feb. 11 awards ceremony will honor local science teachers

The public is invited to the Peggy Corbett Science Mini-Grant Awards Ceremony and Reception to honor those who were selected as Andover's grant recipients for the 2002-03 school year by the Corbett family foundation.

The ceremony will take place Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 3:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room of the School Administration Building. E-mail an RSVP by Friday, Feb. 7, to ddelorenzo@aps1.net, or call 978-623-8506.

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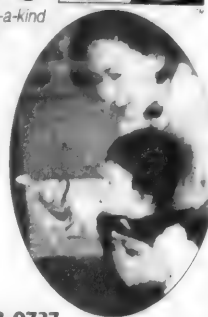
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# Arts & Entertainment

## EVENTS CALENDAR



**THE FIRE WITHIN**—There will be a lecture tonight from 6 to 8 at the Griffin Museum of Photography. John Huet and Elisabeth O'Donnell discuss their experiences shooting the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympics. Tickets are \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. The Griffin Museum is at 67 Shore Road, in Winchester. Call 781-729-1158.

### Thursday, February 6

**Lecture.** The Fire Within. photographers discuss their experiences shooting the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympics. \$10 members, \$20 non-members. Griffin Museum, 67 Shore Road, Winchester. 781-729-1158.

**Live music.** Three Recitals at Three for Free, first in a series of three. Rebecca Sears, free, 3 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover. 978-837-5355.

**Live music.** Jazz vocalist Rebecca Parris and trio, \$30, 7:30 p.m., Stoneham Theatre 395 Main St., Stoneham; 781-279-2200. www.stonehamtheatre.org

**Discussion.** Merrimack College presents *The Chains That Bind Us*, this year's theme for Justice and Peace Week, designed to foster discussion, increase awareness and promote activism, free, 7-9:30 p.m., Death Penalty, movie and discussion, Shine Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center.

**Meeting.** the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's Women's Business Network presents *Managing Customer Experiences*, hosted by Crescent Dragon Gallery & Cafe, \$10 members, \$20 non-members, 5-7 p.m., Crescent Dragon Gallery & Cafe, 59 Washington St., Haverhill; 978-686-0900.

**Lecture.** Jennifer Gilbert, curator of the New England Quilt Museum, presents *Preferred Taste in New England Quilts*, history of quilt-making in the 18th and 19th centuries, light refreshments, \$4 members, \$5 non-members 7 p.m., the Buttonwoods Museum/Haverhill Historical Society, 240 Water St., Haverhill, call to register: 978-374-4626, www.haverhillhistory.org.

### Friday, February 7

**Live music.** music department of Phillips Academy presents an organ recital featuring John Skelton, performing the works of Weckmann, Frescobaldi, Bach, Hindemith, Rheinberger and Saint-Saëns, free, 7:30 p.m., Cochran Chapel, Phillips Academy Campus; music department, 978-749-4995 or e-mail, music@andover.edu.

**"Tot Shabbat" Services.** Temple Emanuel's "Tot Shabbat" service, specially oriented for pre-school through primary grade children, 6:30 p.m., Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road; 978-470-1563.

**Live comedy.** Brad Mastrangelo,

Mike Cote, Todd Verdonck \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

### Saturday, February 8

**Live music.** Merrimack Valley Music Teacher's Association presents a recital *Music Through the Ages*, played by students of local instructors, students will play pieces by memory from Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Modern musical eras, free, 2 p.m., Memorial Hall Library; Rusty Palumbo 781-944-2017.

**Live music.** Andover Chamber Music series presents its sixth



William Hite

Annual Valentine Concert *Romance in the Belle Epoque*, tenor William Hite to sing the highly romantic songs of Henri Duparc with pianist Randall Hodgkinson,

7:30 p.m., \$20 to \$25, Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover; 978-474-6222, www.andoverchambermusic.org.

**Workshop.** Four-Patch Workshop, Marilyn SanSouci of Silver Penny Studio and the New England Quilt Museum, teaches beginners of all ages to make a hand-sewn pillow-top, bring four 2-inch squares and one 5-inch square of your cherished fabrics, other materials included, \$10 members, \$12 non-members, the Buttonwoods Museum/Haverhill Historical Society, 240 Water St., Haverhill, registration required; 978-374-4626, www.haverhillhistory.org.

**Live music.** Bob Fox, opening act Chris Pahud and Phil Kissinger, \$12, doors open 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m., Crossroads Coffeehouse, North Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, North Andover; 978-687-3960 or 978-687-7948.

**Live comedy.** Brad Mastrangelo, Mike Cote, Todd Verdonck \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

**Orientation.** Habitat for Humanity offers a volunteer orientation, 9-11 a.m., meet at 76 Twelfth Ave., Haverhill at duplex currently under construction, meet other volunteers, homeowners and learn about volunteer opportunities, reserve a spot; 978-681-8858.

Continued on page 17

## Gallery becomes Art Club classroom

By Ben Hellman

**S**prawled out on the Addison Gallery of American Art's polished wooden floors, students spend one afternoon a week communing with the masters and making art of their own. Art Club and two upcoming February family workshops at the Phillips Academy art museum are all about teaching kids to think, understand and appreciate art.

Michelle Grohe, Addison education fellow, says that being able to make art in the presence of the Addison's master works is a unique part of the program. Students look at art works, have a discussion about them and then work on their own.

Grohe says getting elementary kids used to talking and developing opinions can be a challenge. She finds many kids are used to being lectured to, which is a different approach than is taken in the art classes. "A lot of what we do is find different ways to ask questions," she said.

In one of the upcoming classes, students will look at some of the portraits from the Addison's Conversations exhibit and think about why the subjects are wearing the clothes they are, or are posed they way they are.

Another class, focusing on the Sol LeWitt exhibit, will try to duplicate the experience of executing a LeWitt work. Several of LeWitt's pieces at the Addison are conceptual works, which means LeWitt creates the work in his mind and then sends directions that other people use to make them. Students will look at some of LeWitt's directions and then write out their own directions and create their own works of art.

The students work in collage and charcoal pencil mostly, but also get a chance to use a dark room to make pictograms. The process has students place objects on photosensitive paper and then expose the paper to light. The results are luminous images on photo paper. "How many 10-year-olds get to go into a dark room? It demystifies the process," said Grohe.

The classes are taught by Phillips Academy students. Grohe said this year there are three seniors, two juniors and one sophomore participating. The seniors have been doing it for several years. "It's quite popular on campus," said Grohe, and there are always more volunteers than are needed.

Sometimes students haven't had an art background and get confused or frustrated by some of the art they see on the walls. That's something Grohe understands. "It's fine if you don't like it, but it's important that you can understand why," said Grohe.

Addison's February vacation art workshops are free. They are scheduled from Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 18 and 19, and invite organizers invite parents to come and participate. "Sometimes the parents get as excited (as the kids), or more," said Grohe.

The Addison Gallery offers its After School Art Club for children of different ages. The club is a four-session program featuring weekly art appreciation discussions and hands-on activities related to the museum's current exhibitions: *Conversations: A Collection in Dialogue, On Paper: Masterworks from the Addison Collection* and *Sol LeWitt: Recent Acquisitions*.

This winter, the club for 7- to 9-year-olds will meet on Wednesdays through March 5, from 3:15 to 4:45 p.m. The after-school arts club for 10- to 12-year-olds will meet Tuesdays, Feb. 4 to March 4, 3:15 to 4:45 p.m.

The Advanced Art Club will be a four-week workshop for 12- to 14-year-olds to "explore the many ways artists create drawings, using various surfaces, materials, and



at last year's February Family Vacation Workshop, Phillips Academy student Lexi Steil, class of '02, discussed the Eye of the World exhibition.



Phillips Academy student Jaqui Leboutillier, class of '04, leads the age 7 to 9 ASAC students in a collage activity in the Trisha Brown exhibition last fall.

technique," according to a release. The club will meet Wednesdays, Feb. 5 to March 5, from 3:15 to 4:45 p.m.

There will be no session on Feb. 18 or 19 due to public school vacation

The Addison's after-school programs are free for family members. To reserve a space and sign up for family membership, or for more information, call Michelle Grohe at 978-749-4037.

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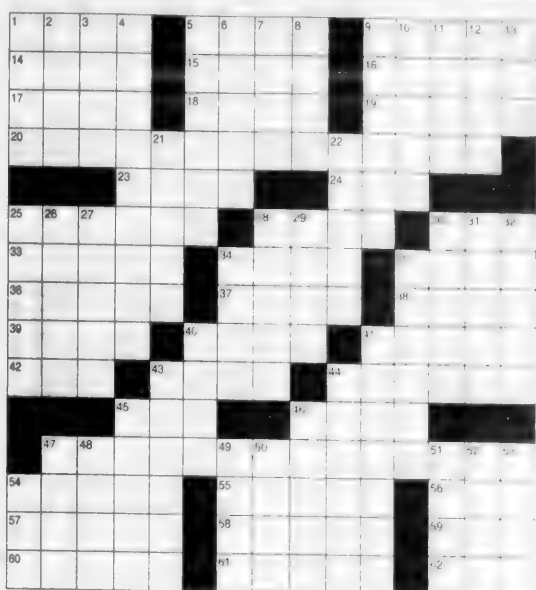
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Insect feeler
5. A witty person who makes jokes
9. Fresh water fish, plural
14. Hail (nautical)
15. Absent
16. Nucleotide sequences
17. Author, Caleb \_\_\_\_\_
18. Youngster
19. Lotto
20. Ann Nichols comedy
23. Deal with
24. Goal
25. Girdles
28. Gentlemen
30. Spring ahead, abbr.
33. Chamois of the Pyrenees
34. Selling at reduced prices
35. Japanese beverage
36. The lowest molding at the base of a column
37. Frosts
38. Old Irish alphabet
39. Ion, for one
40. Karl \_\_\_\_\_ wrote Das Kapital
41. Extremely angry
42. Tributary of Mississippi River
43. Biblical Hamath
44. Aspects
45. A citizen of Thailand
46. Up and down man
47. Matt Damon film, with "The"
54. Island off Venezuela
55. A way to love



56. Satisfaction
57. A double star in Ursa Major
58. Curves
59. Destroy a limb
60. Dish
61. Novices
62. At sales or auctions

## CLUES DOWN

1. Large rodent of S. and C. America
2. Whale ship captain
3. Ceylonese animal
4. Painted daisy
5. Log and pressure
6. Bestow an honor upon
7. Isodor \_\_\_\_\_ American physicist
8. In a way, discolors
9. The remains of something that has been destroyed or broken up
10. Postulate
11. Bunko games
12. German woman's name
13. Volcanic mountain in Japan
21. Origins
22. Hurries
25. Indian instrument
26. Nitrogen
27. Indian instrument
28. Bones
29. Hollies
30. Babylonian earth god
31. Sports equipment
32. Fashions and ideas of the present age
34. Thailand
35. Most sensitive
40. A very large body of water
41. Chill
43. Capital of Zimbabwe
44. Image appears 3-D
45. About fallopian tube
46. Smell
47. Person from U.K., abbr.
48. Anise-flavored Greek liquor
49. The cardinal compass point that is at 90 degrees
50. Lazily
51. Unstressed-stressed
52. Thailand citizen
53. An enclosed field
54. Doctors' group

## EVENTS CALENDAR

## FEB. 6 THRU FEB. 16

Continued from page 16

Artist's reception, with wine and cheese, 7-9 p.m., the Walsingham Gallery, 47 Merrimack St., Newburyport 01950-4411. [www.thewalsinghamgallery.com](http://www.thewalsinghamgallery.com)

Winter tea and Tour at Castle Hill, 518 Trustee members, \$26 non-members, seating 1 and 4pm, tour one hour prior to seating, reservations required, Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, 290 Arden Road, Ipswich 01938-8748.

## Sunday, February 9

Valentine brunch, variety of hot and cold items with a decadent dessert station, 85-10 a.m., Andover Senior Center, 75-623-8321.

Trek, sponsored by AVIS and AMC Goldsmith Woodlands, night time trek ski or hike the path on Goldsmith 6pm, all ages, and a welcome home flashlight tour, David Dargatzis, 28 and Concord Road, parking lot of 4891, the entrance to AVIS Goldsmith Woodlands, David Dargatzis, 1149.

Summer fair, Phillips Academy, holds its annual Summer Opportunities Fair, noon-5pm, continues the dining hall, Salem Street, Phillips Academy.

Lecture, the Andover Historical Society, "Andover, New England Through Andover History" program.

presented, The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

Workshop, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

Meeting, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

Exhibit Talk, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

Live music, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."



Joseph T. Skerrett Jr.

Live music, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

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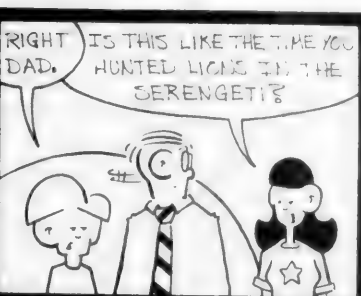
## Monday, February 10

PAC Meeting, "The Native American, "Presenting a Native American by Joseph T. Skerrett Jr."

Continued on page 18

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By Neil Fater and Don Mathias



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

**FEB. 6 THRU FEB. 16**  
Continued from page 17

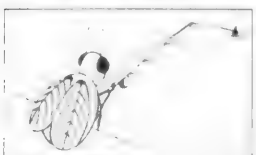
School, Peter Anderson will give school update, 7 p.m., AHS Media Center: 978-623-8200

**Fundraiser.** the Andover High School ski team will hold a fundraiser at Fuddrucker's, 4-8 p.m., restaurant will donate a portion of all sales during those hours directly to the team, ski-related door prizes will be awarded hourly, Fuddrucker's, Route 114, North Andover: 978-623-8200.

**Talk.** Middlesex Community College and the MCC Office of Student Life and Office of External Affairs hosts a talk by Frank McCourt, book signing to follow, free, 12:30 p.m., ballroom of the Lowell DoubleTree Hotel adjacent to MCC on Kearney Street, Lowell: 978-656-3238.

**Tuesday, February 11**

**Fly fishing.** Memorial Hall Library and the Andover Fly Fishers a month-long program Fish On! Andover 2003, free, demonstration 6 p.m., program 7 p.m., TV personality Trever Goudy, Memorial Hall Library: Norma Gammon 978-623-8401, Ext. 49



**Mixer.** the Merrimack Valley Chamber with GreyStone Farm at Salem presents a Valentine Mixer, \$10 members, \$20 non-members, 5-7 p.m., Greystone Farm at Salem, 242 Main St. Salem, N.H.: 603-898-5393.

**Talk.** the Andover-North Andover Chapter of AARP meeting will host Raymond E. Potvin who co-authored a book on the Abenaki Indians with Alfred E. Kayworth, free, 1:30 p.m., Senior Center, Whittier Court.

**Wednesday, February 12**

**Meeting.** the Civil War Roundtable of Merrimack, free, 7:30 p.m., the Hilton Senior Center, 61 Lafayette Road, Salisbury: 978-462-8518.

**Talk.** Learning Retirement Association of UMass Lowell presents Charles Towers artistic director of the Merrimack Repertory Theater, 10 a.m., Fox Hall, North Campus, UMass Lowell: 978-934-3135.

**Thursday, February 13**

**Lecture.** in celebration of African-American History Month, St. Augustine of Hippo: A North African Hero, Rev. Jim Wenzel, OSA, lead a spiritual journey exploring the life of St. Augustine in North Africa and the impact his legacy has on the diverse people of that region of the world, free, 6 p.m. Merrimack College was founded by the Order of St. Augustine, Merrimack College, Murray Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center, North Andover.

**Live music.** the Lowell Memorial Auditorium presents a reinvention of Kander and Ebb's musical *Cabaret*, tickets \$43.50, \$35.50 and \$24.50, 7:30 p.m., the Lowell Memorial Auditorium box office: 978-454-2299.

**Sweet Arts Stroll.** Wingate Street Arts District celebration of Valentine's Day with art, treats, and activities, 6-9 p.m., Margot's Gallery, Origamido, Angles and Art, Crescent Dragon, Paul Prue Stained Glass, Pentucket Art Center, Peddler's Daughter, Bistro 45, Wingate Street, Haverhill.

**Friday, February 14**

**Live comedy.** Chris Zito, Harrison Stebbins, Steve Smith \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover: 781-938-8088.

**Saturday, February 15**

**Live comedy.** Chris Zito, Harrison Stebbins, Steve Smith \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover: 781-938-8088.

**Meeting.** the Merrimack Valley Camera Club Member Print competition, free, 7 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, Elm Street, North Andover.

**Sunday, February 16**

**Artists reception.** Brush Art Gallery presents, *Emerging Voices/ Healing*



PHOTO BY KEN NIEWIOW

**There will be an artists reception Sunday, Feb. 16 at Brush Art Gallery for the exhibit "Emerging Voices/ Healing Souls, contemporary Cambodian artists in the aftermath of war." In the photo above is Chath pierSath, Artist with Self-Portrait. Brush Art Gallery is at 256 Market St., Lowell. Call 978-459-7819.**

*ing Souls, contemporary Camnodi-an artists in the aftermath of war.* 2-4 p.m., Brush Art Gallery, 256 Market St. Lowell: 978-459-7819

**Live music.** the Music Department of Phillips Academy will present a faculty recital featuring tenor Allen Combs and pianist Christopher Walter, free, 3 p.m., Timken Room, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy: 978-749-4995

**Lecture.** Mind Yoga, by Rabbi Laibl Wolf, \$12 to \$15, 7:30 p.m., Mass School of Law, 500 Federal St. RSVP: 978-470-2288, e-mail chabad.mv@verizon.net, www.chabadmv.com.

**Ongoing Art Exhibitions**

**Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art.** Main Gallery through March 30, *The Fire Within*, images of Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympic Games; *Emerging Artists Gallery, New Years Eve Project, 20 Years Around the World*, by Jill Waterman, Tuesday-Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., \$5 admission, Thursday admission is free all day, 67 Shore Road, Winchester, 781-729-1158, www.griffin-

museum.org.

**McCoy Gallery,** Merrimack College; for hours: 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

**Brush Art Gallery, *Emerging Voices/ Healing Souls*,** gallery hours Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 256 Market St., Lowell; 978-459-7819.

**Addison Gallery of American Art,** gallery hours Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun 1-5 p.m.

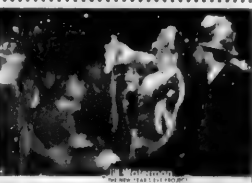
**Andover Historical Society,** 97 Main St.: Tour the Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum for a glimpse into life in the early 19th century. Contemporary Andover Artist Series presents: painter Christine Bobek The Museum is open for tours Tuesday through Friday 1-4 p.m., \$5 admission; students \$3; Elaine C. Zopes 978-475-2236 www.andhist.org.

**Alpers Fine Art of Andover,** gallery hours: Wednesday & Thursdays 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 2 Main St., Andover; 978-470-0013.

**Town Manager's office,** Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Offices, 36 Bartlett St.: 978-623-8200.

**Essex Art Center,** January 17 - February 28, Main Gallery; *Kyogen, Works by Leika Akiyama, Hiroko Kikuchi,* and collaborative work by Steve Aishman and Ben Sloat, in the Elizabeth Beland Gallery; *Art as Poetry,* works by Gwendolyn Lanier, Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 56 Island St., Lawrence: 978-685-2343.

**Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, *Objects and their Meanings: Historical Highlights of the Peabody,*** displays ethnographic objects from the museum's collection.



**From *New Years Eve Project, 20 Years Around the World*,** by Jill Waterman.

lections of North and South America and a series of photographs that illustrate the activities of the museum's key people during the last century; Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m., by appointment only, free admission, Phillips Academy campus, 175 Main St., 978-749-4490.

**Revolving Museum,** artist-driven museum, dedicated to presenting public art, exhibitions, educational programs, gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m./Sunday 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

**Whistler House Museum of Art,**

Continued on page 19

## NECS performance at Rogers Center honors Black History Month

The New England Classical Singers, with David Hodgkins, artistic director, will present "Langston Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance" at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb 9 at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, in North Andover.

NECS's third annual student collaboration will include singers from Lawrence and Lynnfield high schools. The concert celebrates African American History Month and features a special multimedia presentation given by noted scholar Dr. Joseph T. Skerrett Jr. on the Harlem Renaissance - "an unprecedented outburst of creativity among African Americans in all fields of art," organizers said.

The concert features several songs with texts by the renowned poet Langston Hughes, including three by award-winning composer Ricky Ian Gordon, along with jazz great Dave Brubeck's *In Time of Silver Rain. We Sang our Songs* by William Grant Still with lyrics by Verna Arvey, proclaims the promise and responsibilities of freedom.

The Harlem Renaissance spanned from the end of World War I through the mid 1930s. During this time, gift-

ed Black American artists produced a large body of literature, visual arts, and music with the common themes of alienation and marginality. More than just a literary movement, the Harlem Renaissance encouraged a strong racial consciousness and pride among Black Americans.

Skerrett's lecture will focus on writer Langston Hughes, musician William Grant Still, and painter Aaron Douglas, complementing the musical performances. Skerrett holds a PhD from Yale University, and is a professor of English at UMass Amherst. He has won numerous academic honors, including an honorary doctor of literature degree from his undergraduate alma mater and the Chancellor's Award for Multiculturalism from UMass.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and \$5 for students. NECS will provide a block of complimentary tickets to area high school and college students on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call 978-474-6090, or visit [www.newenglandclassical.org](http://www.newenglandclassical.org).

Tickets are on sale at the Rogers Center box office and Andover Bookstore.

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Attorney Marybeth McInnis

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Attorney Marybeth McInnis, together with her father, Attorney James McInnis, believe foremost in establishing a good working relationship with clients. This happens when clients are comfortable and confident that their decisions and wishes will be heard and respected. For much of their work, McInnis Law Offices charges a flat fee so clients can feel free to explore their feelings, express their wishes, and become informed by asking questions.

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Attorney Marybeth McInnis grew up in North Andover and continues to live in the community with her husband. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the Boston Bar Association's Estate Planning Committee, and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. She is also a Director of the Friends of Merrimack College, Trustee of the James W. O'Brien Foundation, Inc., and is also licensed to practice in New Hampshire as well as Massachusetts.

McInnis Law Offices is at 807 Turnpike St. (Rte. 114) in North Andover. The office is comfortable and sunny with convenient parking. Call for an appointment at 978-686-6112.

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# Business

## IN BRIEF

### Merrimack Valley Chamber hosts networking event

The Merrimack Valley chamber of Commerce will host a marketing mixer on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Greystone Farm, 242 Main St., Route 97, Salem, N.H.

The mixer will be from 5 to 7 p.m., and is being sponsored by Greystone Farm in Salem.

The mixer will feature hors d'oeuvres, beverages and prizes.

Cost is \$10 per person, or two for \$15 for members who bring a friend.

The public invited. Non-member price is \$20.

### It's official at Danvers Bank



Central Street celebration marks bank's arrival in Andover – Danvers Savings Bank officially celebrated its arrival in the town of Andover by hosting a grand opening reception at its new 18-20 Central St. location. More than 100 guests were on hand for the event, including customers, School Committee members, Merrimack Valley Chamber representatives and other business people from Andover and the surrounding communities. Owner of the Central Street building, Nancy McArdle, along with her son John and daughter-in-law Joan, stopped by to wish Danvers Savings Bank well in its role as a member of the Andover community. The group together at the reception includes, from left: Bank President and CEO Kevin Bottomley; Andover Branch Manager Paula Evans; and Nancy, Joan and John McArdle. Open since Sept. 9, the Andover branch of Danvers Savings Bank has more than \$11 million dollars in deposits in its first two months of operation.

### Keller Williams expands staff

Keller Williams Realty, 63 Park St., announced the following additions to its sales staff. Peter Slettehaugh, James Bishop and Yulia Teleshevsky recently joined the Keller Williams team.

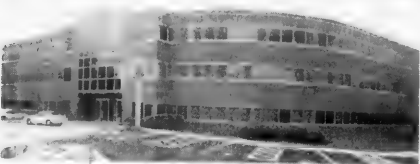
Slettehaugh has lived on the North Shore for more than 16 years. One of his priorities is being involved in his community. He was an executive board member of the Pentucket Regional School District and a former member of the Groveland Historic Commission. He lives in Groveland, and is married with two children.

Bishop was born and raised in the Boston area. He graduated from Weston High School in 1994 and attended UMass Amherst. He moved to Lowell five years ago and hopes to use his interest in architecture and history to build his real estate business in the greater Lowell area.

Teleshevsky joined the Keller Williams team Oct. 10. She was born and raised in Moscow, Russia. She worked as an electrical engineer for several years, then switched to IBM mainframe programming.

She moved to the US with her 4-year-old daughter and her mother in 1988.

Teleshevsky has made the move into real estate, and has received her real estate license.



Meredith & Grew Inc. and ONCOR International announced that Palm Inc. has leased 7,690 square feet of first-class office space at 10 New England Business Center in Andover (shown above). Meredith & Grew's Joe Flaherty and Tad Lee represented the tenant in two separate transactions totaling 7,690 square feet. Palm leased 2,884 square feet of office space from the landlord, ELV Associates. Palm also subleased 4,806 square feet of space from EGain Corp.

## They've seen 25 years on Main Street

Long-running shops have seen changes, credit creation of loyal customers

By Ben Hellman

They're the little guys on Andover's business block, but over the years they've proven they have staying power. Andover's oldest downtown businesses – the handful that have been on Main Street for more than 25 years – recall a smaller, quieter downtown. Their owners say that hard work, strong, loyal customer bases and pride in their craft is what has kept them successful through the years.

John Simko says it doesn't seem possible that he's run Andover Optical Inc. for 28 years. The optician makes glasses quite differently now than 28 years ago. Lenses were all glass at the time. Simko had to trace the shape of frame by hand and then begin the labor-intensive process of grinding down the lens to fit in the frame. Now, with plastics and computers, Simko plugs measurements into a machine and it grinds down the lenses.

Simko has seen a lot of downtown change in 28 years as well. When he first opened shop, the building across from him, which now houses Daher's, Dino Furs and Nazarian Jewelers, didn't even exist. It was an open lot, says Simko.

Mike Crocco, owner of Academy Barber Shop, can tell a similar story. He's been on Main Street since the early '70s when Andover Village was created out of two homes.

All of Andover's oldest Main Street business owners said the character of downtown Andover has changed in more than 25 years. Simko remembers three hardware stores and three pharmacies. Many more of the businesses were independently owned. "There weren't any traffic jams. There weren't any one-way streets," he said. Simko



Anniversary time – Vena Coco has been selling fine clothes and accessories for 25 years.

said on Saturday morning Main Street would come alive with foot traffic. "They would do their banking and go to the hardware stores," he said.

George Dukas has owned and run Lantern Brunch since 1976. "I'm one of the oldies – but goodies," said Dukas. Before buying the coffee shop, Dukas owned Andover Spa on Elm Street. "I used to come over here to eat. I liked it," he said.

Pride in ownership was something that each of the business owners pointed out. When asked what he owed his long time success to, Crocco responded, "Showing up every day. I want the business to work."

Vena Coco, of Vena Coco Collections says that personally choos-

ing and buying all of the clothes she sells in her store has helped keep her on top.

Dick Chapell of Andover Photo

said if he doesn't vacuum and keep the store looking nice, his customers might not believe he cared.

"We give good service. We stand

### Long-running Main Street businesses

**ACADEMY BARBER SHOP**  
Owner: Mike Crocco  
Here since: early 1970s

**ANDOVER PHOTO**  
Owner: Dick Chapell  
Here since: 1978

**ANDOVER OPTICAL**  
Owner: John Simko  
Here since: 1975

**VENA COCO COLLECTIONS**  
Owner: Vena Coco  
Here since: 1978

**LANTERN BRUNCH**  
Owner: George Dukas  
Here since: 1976

**ANDOVER BARBER SHOP**  
Owner: Robin Calderon  
(daughter of John Feitas)  
Here since: 1985 (the shop has had six previous owners).

### Chamber forum

## Democratic US reps hit Bush on economy

By Andrea Gregory

Breakfast was served with a full helping of warnings on Monday as Merrimack Valley businessmen and women heard from their US Congressmen about such issues as current economic hardships and possible war with Iraq.

The Government Affairs Committee of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce sponsored the forum in Andover with Congressmen John Tierney and Marty Meehan, the latter of whom represents Andover. Tierney and Meehan didn't paint a pretty economic picture and criticized the president's plan of action.

"There is not a single bit of optimistic news if you're looking at the president's plan," said Tierney.

Tierney brought a charts and figures illustrating the situation. Since January 2001, 72,739 jobs per month have been cut. If this pattern continues, Bush will have the worst job growth record in 58 years, he said.

Tierney also criticized the president's plan for tax breaks, saying it would do nothing to help many Americans.

"What you get out of the presi-



Rep. John Tierney attacked George Bush's economic plan.

dent's tax break is not even enough to buy a Big Mac a day," he said. "This is his answer while we're struggling?"

But Bush isn't the only Republican politician Democrat Tierney says is hurting the current situation rather than helping it. "I don't care what the governor says, he's cutting into core programs," said Tierney about Mitt Romney.

Meehan noted that Bush has

fired his economic team and hired all new people. Then he posed the question: "How could a former governor propose nothing to states in times like these?"

Meehan also addressed the issue of affordable housing – or lack thereof – in the Merrimack Valley.

"We face a housing crisis, not just a shortage, but a crisis," said Meehan, adding this is an issue having a negative impact on the local economy.

On other matters:

#### TRADE AGREEMENTS

Meehan said he doesn't believe anyone from Massachusetts voted to give the president fast track authority, saying it gives the president more power while taking it out of the people's hands. Fast track authority was passed last Congress to allow the president to negotiate trade agreements like NAFTA and WTO without Congress.

#### WAR WITH IRAQ

The mention of other countries led to talk of going to war with Iraq. Meehan said he voted to give the president the ability to use force, but said there needs to be another meeting with the United Nations Security Council. He said it's critical the



Marty Meehan, Fifth District sees "housing crisis, not shortage."

US continue to work with the UN and said there has been no evidence of an emergency that would call for immediate action.

"Before we go to war we should make sure there is some immediate threat against this country," he said.

"(If we don't) that mentality will have a devastating effect on the world we leave my children and yours," Meehan said.

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# Blizzard of '78



I STARTED OUT THE BLIZZARD on a black volcanic sand beach in Tahiti, blissfully ignorant of the whole scenario in Eastern Massachusetts. The first inkling of trouble was revealed after a snorkeling trip on what we thought was our last day in Tahiti, Monday.

When we returned, sunburned and sad, to the lobby of our hotel there was a sign: TRIP HOME CANCELED - JOIN US



IN THE BAR. Mystified, we joined a boisterous celebration going full blast and were told about the "monster blizzard."

The bottom line was that we would be forced to spend at least

another day in paradise at the travel agency's expense. Tough break, to be sure.

We finally left over a day late still not knowing what was going down in Andover until we arrived in Los Angeles. We wound up in Information Central - namely the airport cocktail lounge. There, we were regaled with tales that Massachusetts was a federal disaster area. The TV screens were showing mountains of snow and appalling blizzard scenes from Boston.

We were told that we could not go to Boston for a long time but that the travel agency was trying to arrange alternative transportation to Hartford, Conn. We landed in Hartford late on Wednesday and had a free hotel room in Springfield for the night. Hartford and Springfield had a lot of snow but nothing extraordinary as far as we were concerned, and we couldn't understand why Gov. Dukakis had essentially closed down Massachusetts.

The next day we were given a choice between another free day in Springfield or a circuitous bus ride as far as Lawrence. We opted for the bus. Since a lot of phones were out we had trouble figuring out just how much snow had fallen in Andover but we were sure that it was being greatly exaggerated. Eventually we got to Lawrence and then Andover late Friday where we were greeted by ungodly, enormous snow banks and incredulous stares since we were all either terrifically tanned (the others) or badly sunburned (yours truly). We probably looked like we had overdosed in a tanning salon somewhere during the storm. Since the governor had allegedly "sealed off" all roads into and out of Eastern Mass. no one would believe that we made it from Tahiti to Andover.

One of our group had fairly serious coral poisoning from skin-diving at Bora Bora and I had to take him by taxi to the Lawrence General emergency room. We were originally refused treatment because the duty doctor, who had been cooped up there for five days, accused us of insulting him because "everyone knows there is no coral in the Merrimack Valley."

A memorable blizzard to be sure!

- John Doherty  
69 Carmel Road



I WORKED IN DEDHAM at the time in an office building at the Route 128 and Washington Street clover leaf. I remember looking down on the early afternoon traffic that quickly went from deadlocked to dead stopped. I did not know it at the time, but the cars I saw on 128 that early Monday afternoon would remain there for the balance of the week and their occupants would live at the movie theater across 128, adjacent to my office building. My car was being serviced that day, but my wife and I retrieved it and made it (barely) through the snow-covered streets to our two-family house in Norwood where we actually enjoyed a warm comfortable evening. Despite the snow and heavy winds, we never lost power. Our apartment, however, was in direct line with the strong winds that blew that night and I clearly remember looking out the window the next morning to see our car buried, save the top foot or so of the passenger cabin.

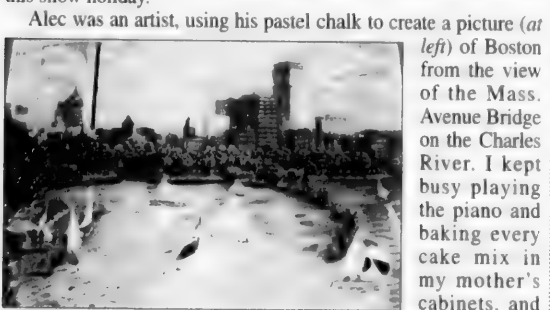
My wife and I proceeded, along with our neighbors, to shovel the five-foot drifts. It took us the next three days to shovel the front porch, 20 to 30 feet of walkway and a two-car carport area. We became good friends with our neighbors that week as each day was consumed with shoveling, a party, and an occasional walk to the grocery store in the center of town which did manage to open by Wednesday. Our street was not cleared until an earth-moving bulldozer with steel tracks made its way by on Wednesday or Thursday (which off course resulted in another day of shoveling).

My final memory actually occurred about three years later. A newly hired co-worker from South Africa explained one day he had never seen snow and, in trying to prepare for the upcoming winter, wanted to know what to expect. Another colleague took the "picture is worth a thousand words" approach and offered to bring in a movie projector and some home movies of what was explained was a "typical" New England winter. The next day our new friend from South Africa watched, in horror, home movies of... the Blizzard of '78.

- Brad Buchholz  
3 Fun Flight Circle



THE BLIZZARD OF '78 was the most romantic time of my 53 years! My husband Alec and I were just going together then, when we agreed to house sit for my parents, who were spending the season in Florida. We had a great big house in West Newton filled with antiques and a fireplace all to ourselves. I was running Boston's foster home program for children at the time, but I couldn't get to work with the roads closed. It was a very stressful job and I was in great need of this snow holiday.

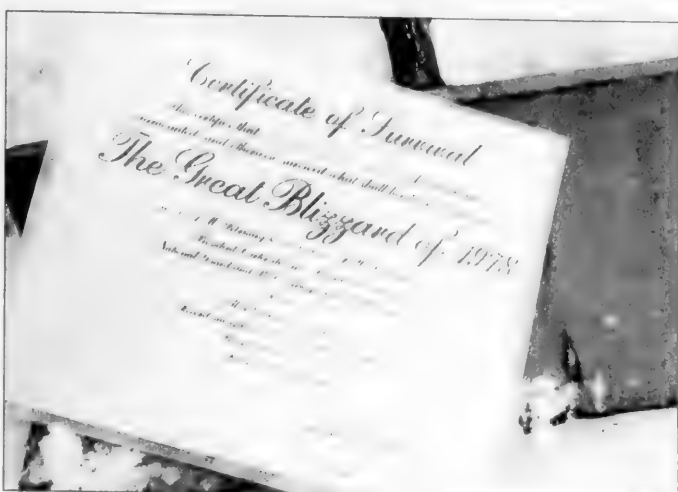


Alec was an artist, using his pastel chalk to create a picture (at left) of Boston from the view of the Mass. Avenue Bridge on the Charles River. I kept busy playing the piano and baking every cake mix in my mother's cabinets, and used up all her

flour and sugar. When we went to the grocery store a mile away, we pulled the shopping bags home tied up on a sled. Everybody in the community was friendly, carrying their shopping bags and envious of our sled transportation!

At the end of the week when people were allowed to drive again, we had a party. Every single person we invited eagerly came because they had not gone anywhere during the blizzard and were eager to socialize. We had 12 people for a sit down dinner and 50 more guests for the desserts I baked all week. Alec was trying to imitate John Travolta while dancing to the new record of *Saturday Night Fever*. He also played the guitar for everyone. The fireplace was going. Nobody spilled anything. We cleaned up perfectly. My parents never even found out we had the party. That was the best party we ever hosted!

- Linda Jones Feinberg  
22 Avery Lane



Disaster area - Donald McCandless, of 20 Ravens Bluff, sent in his "Certificate of Survival" for the Blizzard of '78. Several records were set between 10:20 a.m. Monday, Feb. 6 through 6:20 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1978: Record snowfall in a 24-hour period (27.1 inches); record winds (79 mph); and record school closings.



WITH MAY 6 MARKING OUR 25TH wedding anniversary, it is easy to recall the memories of the Blizzard of 1978. On Monday, Feb. 6, 1978, I woke up in my parents' home, and began getting ready for work. I worked for the telephone company, and in those days if employees didn't show up for work, no matter what the conditions, they were not paid. With an image of dependability to live up to, the public utility believed its reputation would be "tainted" if customers even perceived a problem. For the first time in history, they were forced to close temporarily.

As I looked out the living room window, I told my father, "I have to get to work... you don't understand... they won't tolerate any of us not being there."



My father, a meteorologist, laughed and replied, "Kathi, you're not going anywhere!" I stood in disbelief until I realized that instead of seeing the road, there was a four-foot high "road." The snow banks were the same height as the unplowed street. It was surreal.

I was also engaged to my husband, John. He lived on the other side of town, and we knew about Governor Dukakis' moratorium on driving unless it was an emergency. So we decided to walk and meet each other halfway. We were undaunted, in love, and

walked a total of five miles each, as we arrived back at my house in Lexington.

I also used the time to make Christmas presents, 10 months ahead of time. I used pen and ink to draw different birds in their habitats, and later framed them as gifts for the family. For five days I nested. I drew and drew. I never regretted the sudden halt in my life at all.

Oh, and I don't remember if I got paid by the telephone company, either.

Kathi Chang  
56 Pleasant St.



MATTHEW AUMAIS AND HIS SISTER STEPHANIE

Aumais, outside their house at 10 Washington Ave. following the Blizzard of '78. Matthew is now with the State Police, formerly with the Andover Police Department.

- Rosemary Macdonald  
2 Upland Road



THE BLIZZARD OF 1978 came at a perfect time and place for me. It was the ultimate in snow days, just when I had finished school and joined the work force. Actually, I was still in a training class at my new job at John Hancock in Boston.

I had been married less than eight months and we lived on the top floor of a triple-decker in East Cambridge, near the courthouse. On my days off, I had fun exploring the tiny shops of our new neighborhood.

The storm we had in late January had shut down the T's Green Line, so I had pulled out my map of the city, and walked home. It was cold and wet, but mostly fun. Rather than fight with the crowds on public transportation, I walked home again on Feb. 6.

As I watched the storm get worse from the apartment window, I wondered if my husband would walk or drive the few blocks from his job in Cambridge.

My husband did manage to drive home, and, of course, our two cars ended up almost completely covered with snow. We spent a couple of days digging them out (photo, page 1). Fortunately, we had little else to worry about since I had a well-stocked kitchen, and we never lost electricity. Although, after a few days, we were beginning to get a touch of "cabin fever."

So, when a bakery was able to open and make fresh Italian bread late in the week, it was very exciting. Everyone in the neighborhood seemed to come out for a loaf of warm bread. We walked down the middle of the streets, which were plowed, but empty of traffic. It was a big neighborhood party, yet quiet and relaxed. It was a wonderful snow day.

- Norma Shepperd  
37 Bailey Road



IN FEBRUARY OF 1978 I was a senior at Merrimack College living in an apartment on South Broadway in Lawrence with four other seniors. The timing of the blizzard was perfect as school was canceled for the rest of the week. The rest of that week was spent doing what most other college students were doing as the Merrimack Valley tried to dig out. Nothing. We did devote some of our time assisting the neighborhood with shoveling. However, most of our time was spent playing cards or throwing darts. We also spent a great deal of time playing Pong, the first video game. There were also frequent visits to the corner refreshment stand. These were necessary to keep up our strength. Cards, darts and Pong were taking a lot out of us. This band of desperados were also making frequent illegal drives to campus, as we were sick of looking at each other. We also didn't want to miss any of the numerous study groups that were occurring.

My most vivid memory however, occurred on Friday, Feb. 10. The driving ban was still in effect. My father had passed away the previous summer. It happened that his birthday was Feb. 10. A birthday memorial Mass was planned for that day in Lynn, where I grew up. I decided that facing the consequences of my illegal mad dash to Lynn was much preferable to skipping this Mass and having to face my old man when I eventually ascended or descend to his current place of residence. Not to mention my mother.

That trip down Route 114 and Route 1 on my way to Lynn was one of the most surreal experiences I have ever had. Nothing but snow and 10- to 15-foot snowbanks. There was not a soul on the road. I was finally stopped as I tried to enter Lynn. I explained my predicament to the police officer. He told me he had heard dozens of stories during the past week but mine was the best. He sent me on my way. It also helped that he remembered my father, who had been a probation officer. When I finally reached my house I realized how lucky I had been to reach my destination and that my law-breaking had to come to an end. We walked to church that day.

Joe Magner  
5 Tanglewood Way, Nor.



MY WIFE, Marjorie Dennis, has lived in Andover since 1986, but has said she will never forget the height of the snowdrifts outside her Framingham home following the Blizzard of '78.

Robert Dennis  
18 Orchard Crossing



I WAS WORKING, AND HAD A BOSS who had an aversion to allowing us to go home during any storm. His advice was always the same: "Let's wait here, where it's safe and let the other companies close. Then when we go, the roads will be clear."

By 1 p.m., the entire division was in revolt as it was clear that the storm was here to stay. I started on my 20-minute drive home from Burlington to Medford.

Two hours later, I got to my street. It was 3, there wasn't a lot of light left and I was starting to feel ill. I saw one place to park, but it caused the end of my car to slightly block a driveway. So I went around the block. Three times. Took me until 4 to do it, but I finally said to myself, "The guy who owns the driveway is just going to have to somehow understand."

I went to my apartment, took sick, and slept the rest of the day and most of the next day. When I got up, well enough to go out, no worries! Nothing had changed, the plows hadn't got to my street yet and there was two feet of snow everywhere you looked.

My car was buried, as was everyone's. It turned out the person whose driveway I blocked found another driveway for himself - Route 128. He got his car back a week later.

And my boss? I wound up working for him for another 15 years. The division was closed for a week. And we never let him forget it.

Glenn Gosselin  
5 Fern Ridge



I RECALL MY THIRD WINTER in Andover through the eyes of an eager 10-year-old boy. That said, how could the experience have been anything other than the wonderland that winter is meant to be for a young New Englander? Tunnel-digging and snowball fights replaced math and English made for fun-filled days while candle-lit, wood stove-heated evenings created lasting family memories with cabbage, storytelling and camp-style dinners. Even our beloved dog Gus, relished frolicking through the uncommonly deep snow and ice balls the size of grapefruits clung to his legs. Now a parent, I realize these "special" nights huddled by the fire must have seemed more fantastic to my brother and me than to Mom and Dad, who at least pretended to share our enthusiasm.

While these are my initial thoughts of the Blizzard of '78, I cannot say I was completely ignorant of the toll it was taking on others less fortunate. Primarily from headlines I read and news radio flashes I heard, it occurred to me that people were suffering, if not dying daily. I remember not fully understanding how something so fun for me could be so bad for someone else, but, after all, at age 10 the thought of these terrible circumstances ceased to exist the moment I stepped outside to play.

I don't know if we'll ever see such a winter again in these parts - maybe it's just me who thinks they don't make them like they used to - but if we do, I hope my kids are young enough to enjoy it the way I did 25 years ago, but also "old" enough to appreciate and respect what they've been through.

Jeff Ashworth  
28 Cross Street



# Business

## IN BRIEF

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The mixer will feature hors d'oeuvres, beverages and prizes.

Cost is \$10 per person, or two for \$15 for members who bring a friend.

The public invited. Non-member price is \$20.

### It's official at Danvers Bank



Central Street celebration marks bank's arrival in Andover – Danvers Savings Bank officially celebrated its arrival in the town of Andover by hosting a grand opening reception at its new 18-20 Central St. location. More than 100 guests were on hand for the event, including customers, School Committee members, Merrimack Valley Chamber representatives and other business people from Andover and the surrounding communities. Owner of the Central Street building, Nancy McArdle, along with her son John and daughter-in-law Joan, stopped by to wish Danvers Savings Bank well in its role as a member of the Andover community. The group together at the reception includes, from left: Bank President and CEO Kevin Bottomley; Andover Branch Manager Paula Evans; and Nancy, Joan and John McArdle. Open since Sept. 9, the Andover branch of Danvers Savings Bank has more than \$11 million dollars in deposits in its first two months of operation.

### Keller Williams expands staff

Keller Williams Realty, 63 Park St., announced the following additions to its sales staff. Peter Slettehaugh, James Bishop and Yulia Teleshevsky recently joined the Keller Williams team.

Slettehaugh has lived on the North Shore for more than 16 years. One of his priorities is being involved in his community. He was an executive board member of the Pentucket Regional School District and a former member of the Groveland Historic Commission. He lives in Groveland, and is married with two children.

Bishop was born and raised in the Boston area. He graduated from Weston High School in 1994 and attended UMass Amherst. He moved to Lowell five years ago and hopes to use his interest in architecture and history to build his real estate business in the greater Lowell area.

Teleshevsky joined the Keller Williams team Oct. 10. She was born and raised in Moscow, Russia. She worked as an electrical engineer for several years, then switched to IBM mainframe programming.

She moved to the US with her 4-year-old daughter and her mother in 1988.

Teleshevsky has made the move into real estate, and has received her real estate license.



Meredith & Grew Inc. and ONCOR International announced that Palm Inc. has leased 7,690 square feet of first-class office space at 10 New England Business Center in Andover (shown above). Meredith & Grew's Joe Flaherty and Tad Lee represented the tenant in two separate transactions totaling 7,690 square feet. Palm leased 2,884 square feet of office space from the landlord, ELV Associates. Palm also subleased 4,806 square feet of space from EGain Corp.

## They've seen 25 years on Main Street

Long-running shops have seen changes, credit creation of loyal customers

By Ben Hellman

They're the little guys on Andover's business block, but over the years they've proven they have staying power. Andover's oldest downtown businesses – the handful that have been on Main Street for more than 25 years – recall a smaller, quieter downtown. Their owners say that hard work, strong, loyal customer bases and pride in their craft is what has kept them successful through the years.

John Simko says it doesn't seem possible that he's run Andover Optical Inc. for 28 years. The optician makes glasses quite differently now than 28 years ago. Lenses were all glass at the time. Simko had to trace the shape of frame by hand and then begin the labor-intensive process of grinding down the lens to fit in the frame. Now, with plastics and computers, Simko plugs measurements into a machine and it grinds down the lenses.

Simko has seen a lot of downtown change in 28 years as well. When he first opened shop, the building across from him, which now houses Daher's, Dino Furs and Nazarian Jewelers, didn't even exist. It was an open lot, says Simko.

Mike Crocco, owner of Academy Barber Shop, can tell a similar story. He's been on Main Street since the early '70s when Andover Village was created out of two homes.

All of Andover's oldest Main Street business owners said the character of downtown Andover has changed in more than 25 years. Simko remembers three hardware stores and three pharmacies. Many more of the businesses were independently owned. "There weren't any traffic jams. There weren't any one-way streets," he said. Simko



Anniversary time – Vena Coco has been selling fine clothes and accessories for 25 years.

said on Saturday morning Main Street would come alive with foot traffic. "They would do their banking and go to the hardware stores," he said.

George Dukas has owned and run Lantern Brunch since 1976. "I'm one of the oldies – but goodies," said Dukas. Before buying the coffee shop, Dukas owned Andover Spa on Elm Street. "I used to come over here to eat. I liked it," he said.

Pride in ownership was something that each of the business owners pointed out. When asked what he owed his long time success to, Crocco responded, "Showing up every day. I want the business to work."

Vena Coco, of Vena Coco Collections says that personally choos-

ing and buying all of the clothes she sells in her store has helped keep her on top.

Dick Chapell of Andover Photo

said if he doesn't vacuum and keep the store looking nice, his customers might not believe he cared.

"We give good service. We stand

### Long-running Main Street businesses

**ACADEMY BARBER SHOP**  
Owner: Mike Crocco  
Here since: early 1970s

**ANDOVER PHOTO**  
Owner: Dick Chapell  
Here since: 1978

**ANDOVER OPTICAL**  
Owner: John Simko  
Here since: 1975

**VENA COCO COLLECTIONS**  
Owner: Vena Coco  
Here since: 1978

**LANTERN BRUNCH**  
Owner: George Dukas  
Here since: 1976

**ANDOVER BARBER SHOP**  
Owner: Robin Calderon  
(daughter of John Feitas)  
Here since: 1985 (the shop has had six previous owners).

### Chamber forum

## Democratic US reps hit Bush on economy

By Andrea Gregory

Breakfast was served with a full helping of warnings on Monday as Merrimack Valley businessmen and women heard from their US Congressmen about such issues as current economic hardships and possible war with Iraq.

The Government Affairs Committee of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce sponsored the forum in Andover with Congressmen John Tierney and Marty Meehan, the latter of whom represents Andover. Tierney and Meehan didn't paint a pretty economic picture and criticized the president's plan of action.

"There is not a single bit of optimistic news if you're looking at the president's plan," said Tierney.

Tierney brought a charts and figures illustrating the situation. Since January 2001, 72,739 jobs per month have been cut. If this pattern continues, Bush will have the worst job growth record in 58 years, he said.

Tierney also criticized the president's plan for tax breaks, saying it would do nothing to help many Americans.

"What you get out of the presi-



Rep. John Tierney attacked George Bush's economic plan.

dent's tax break is not even enough to buy a Big Mac a day," he said. "This is his answer while we're struggling?"

But Bush isn't the only Republican politician Democrat Tierney says is hurting the current situation rather than helping it. "I don't care what the governor says, he's cutting into core programs," said Tierney about Mitt Romney.

Meehan noted that Bush has

fired his economic team and hired all new people. Then he posed the question: "How could a former governor propose nothing to states in times like these?"

Meehan also addressed the issue of affordable housing – or lack thereof – in the Merrimack Valley.

"We face a housing crisis, not just a shortage, but a crisis," said Meehan, adding this is an issue having a negative impact on the local economy.

On other matters:

#### TRADE AGREEMENTS

Meehan said he doesn't believe anyone from Massachusetts voted to give the president fast track authority, saying it gives the president more power while taking it out of the people's hands. Fast track authority was passed last Congress to allow the president to negotiate trade agreements like NAFTA and WTO without Congress.

#### WAR WITH IRAQ

The mention of other countries led to talk of going to war with Iraq. Meehan said he voted to give the president the ability to use force, but said there needs to be another meeting with the United Nations Security Council. He said it's critical the



Marty Meehan, Fifth District sees "housing crisis, not shortage."

US continue to work with the UN and said there has been no evidence of an emergency that would call for immediate action.

"Before we go to war we should make sure there is some immediate threat against this country," he said.

"(If we don't) that mentality will have a devastating effect on the world we leave my children and yours," Meehan said.

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# Blizzard of '78



I STARTED OUT THE BLIZZARD on a black volcanic sand beach in Tahiti, blissfully ignorant of the whole scenario in Eastern Massachusetts. The first inkling of trouble was revealed after a snorkeling trip on what we thought was our last day in Tahiti, Monday.

When we returned, sunburned and sad, to the lobby of our hotel there was a sign: TRIP HOME CANCELED - JOIN US



IN THE BAR. Mystified, we joined a boisterous celebration going full blast and were told about the "monster blizzard."

The bottom line was that we would be forced to spend at least

another day in paradise at the travel agency's expense. Tough break, to be sure.

We finally left over a day late still not knowing what was going down in Andover until we arrived in Los Angeles. We wound up in Information Central - namely the airport cocktail lounge. There, we were regaled with tales that Massachusetts was a federal disaster area. The TV screens were showing mountains of snow and appalling blizzard scenes from Boston.

We were told that we could not go to Boston for a long time but that the travel agency was trying to arrange alternative transportation to Hartford, Conn. We landed in Hartford late on Wednesday and had a free hotel room in Springfield for the night. Hartford and Springfield had a lot of snow but nothing extraordinary as far as we were concerned, and we couldn't understand why Gov. Dukakis had essentially closed down Massachusetts.

The next day we were given a choice between another free day in Springfield or a circuitous bus ride as far as Lawrence. We opted for the bus. Since a lot of phones were out we had trouble figuring out just how much snow had fallen in Andover but we were sure that it was being greatly exaggerated. Eventually we got to Lawrence and then Andover late Friday where we were greeted by ungodly, enormous snow banks and incredulous stares since we were all either terrifically tanned (the others) or badly sunburned (yours truly). We probably looked like we had overdosed in a tanning salon somewhere during the storm. Since the governor had allegedly "sealed off" all roads into and out of Eastern Mass. no one would believe that we made it from Tahiti to Andover.

One of our group had fairly serious coral poisoning from skin-diving at Bora Bora and I had to take him by taxi to the Lawrence General emergency room. We were originally refused treatment because the duty doctor, who had been cooped up there for five days, accused us of insulting him because "everyone knows there is no coral in the Merrimack Valley."

A memorable blizzard to be sure!

- John Doherty  
69 Carmel Road



I WORKED IN DEDHAM at the time in an office building at the Route 128 and Washington Street clover leaf. I remember looking down on the early afternoon traffic that quickly went from deadlocked to dead stopped. I did not know it at the time, but the cars I saw on 128 that early Monday afternoon would remain there for the balance of the week and their occupants would live at the movie theater across 128, adjacent to my office building. My car was being serviced that day, but my wife and I retrieved it and made it (barely) through the snow-covered streets to our two-family house in Norwood where we actually enjoyed a warm comfortable evening. Despite the snow and heavy winds, we never lost power. Our apartment, however, was in direct line with the strong winds that blew that night and I clearly remember looking out the window the next morning to see our car buried, save the top foot or so of the passenger cabin.

My wife and I proceeded, along with our neighbors, to shovel the five-foot drifts. It took us the next three days to shovel the front porch, 20 to 30 feet of walkway and a two-car carport area. We became good friends with our neighbors that week as each day was consumed with shoveling, a party, and an occasional walk to the grocery store in the center of town which did manage to open by Wednesday. Our street was not cleared until an earth-moving bulldozer with steel tracks made its way by on Wednesday or Thursday (which off course resulted in another day of shoveling).

My final memory actually occurred about three years later. A newly hired co-worker from South Africa explained one day he had never seen snow and, in trying to prepare for the upcoming winter, wanted to know what to expect. Another colleague took the "picture is worth a thousand words" approach and offered to bring in a movie projector and some home movies of what was explained was a "typical" New England winter. The next day our new friend from South Africa watched, in horror, home movies of... the Blizzard of '78.

- Brad Buchholz  
3 Fun Flight Circle



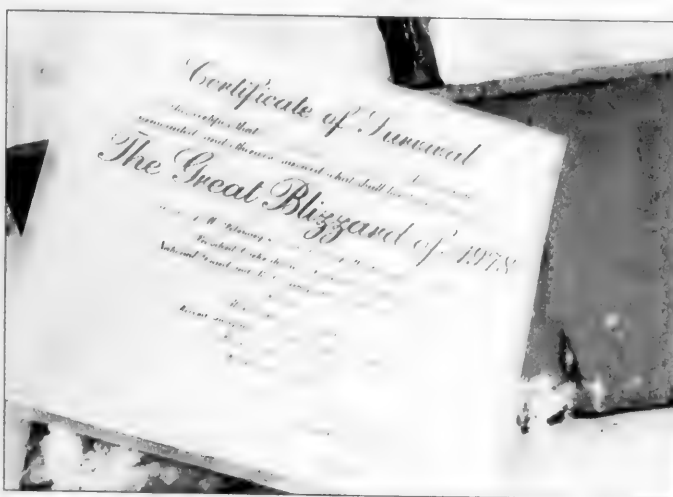
THE BLIZZARD OF '78 was the most romantic time of my 53 years! My husband Alec and I were just going together then, when we agreed to house sit for my parents, who were spending the season in Florida. We had a great big house in West Newton filled with antiques and a fireplace all to ourselves. I was running Boston's foster home program for children at the time, but I couldn't get to work with the roads closed. It was a very stressful job and I was in great need of this snow holiday.

Alec was an artist, using his pastel chalk to create a picture (at left) of Boston from the view of the Mass. Avenue Bridge on the Charles River. I kept busy playing the piano and baking every cake mix in my mother's cabinets, and used up all her

flour and sugar. When we went to the grocery store a mile away, we pulled the shopping bags home tied up on a sled. Everybody in the community was friendly, carrying their shopping bags and envious of our sled transportation!

At the end of the week when people were allowed to drive again, we had a party. Every single person we invited eagerly came because they had not gone anywhere during the blizzard and were eager to socialize. We had 12 people for a sit down dinner and 50 more guests for the desserts I baked all week. Alec was trying to imitate John Travolta while dancing to the new record of *Saturday Night Fever*. He also played the guitar for everyone. The fireplace was going. Nobody spilled anything. We cleaned up perfectly. My parents never even found out we had the party. That was the best party we ever hosted!

- Linda Jones Feinberg  
22 Avery Lane



Disaster area - Donald McCandless, of 20 Ravens Bluff, sent in his "Certificate of Survival" for the Blizzard of '78. Several records were set between 10:20 a.m. Monday, Feb. 6 through 6:20 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1978: Record snowfall in a 24-hour period (27.1 inches); record winds (79 mph); and record school closings.



WITH MAY 6 MARKING OUR 25TH wedding anniversary, it is easy to recall the memories of the Blizzard of 1978. On Monday, Feb. 6, 1978, I woke up in my parents' home, and began getting ready for work. I worked for the telephone company, and in those days if employees didn't show up for work, no matter what the conditions, they were not paid. With an image of dependability to live up to, the public utility believed its reputation would be "tainted" if customers even perceived a problem. For the first time in history, they were forced to close temporarily.

As I looked out the living room window, I told my father, "I have



to get to work... you don't understand... they won't tolerate any of us not being there."

My father, a meteorologist, laughed and replied, "Kathi, you're not going anywhere!" I stood in disbelief until I realized that instead of seeing the road, there was a four-foot high "road." The snow banks were the same height as the unplowed street. It was surreal.

I was also engaged to my husband, John. He lived on the other side of town, and we knew about Governor Dukakis' moratorium on driving unless it was an emergency. So we decided to walk and meet each other halfway. We were undaunted, in love, and

walked a total of five miles each, as we arrived back at my house in Lexington.

I also used the time to make Christmas presents, 10 months ahead of time. I used pen and ink to draw different birds in their habitats, and later framed them as gifts for the family. For five days I nested. I drew and drew. I never regretted the sudden halt in my life at all.

Oh, and I don't remember if I got paid by the telephone company, either.

Kathi Chang  
56 Pleasant St.



MATTHEW AUMAIS AND HIS SISTER, STEPHANIE Aumais, outside their house at 10 Washington Ave. following the Blizzard of '78. Matthew is now with the State Police, formerly with the Andover Police Department.

- Rosemary Macdonald  
2 Upland Road



THE BLIZZARD OF 1978 came at a perfect time and place for me. It was the ultimate in snow days, just when I had finished school and joined the work force. Actually, I was still in a training class at my new job at John Hancock in Boston.

I had been married less than eight months and we lived on the top floor of a triple-decker in East Cambridge, near the courthouse. On my days off, I had fun exploring the tiny shops of our new neighborhood.

The storm we had in late January had shut down the T's Green Line, so I had pulled out my map of the city, and walked home. It was cold and wet, but mostly fun. Rather than fight with the crowds on public transportation, I walked home again on Feb. 6.

As I watched the storm get worse from the apartment window, I wondered if my husband would walk or drive the few blocks from his job in Cambridge.

My husband did manage to drive home, and, of course, our two cars ended up almost completely covered with snow. We spent a couple of days digging them out (photo, page 1). Fortunately, we had little else to worry about since I had a well-stocked kitchen, and we never lost electricity. Although, after a few days, we were beginning to get a touch of "cabin fever."

So, when a bakery was able to open and make fresh Italian bread late in the week, it was very exciting. Everyone in the neighborhood seemed to come out for a loaf of warm bread. We walked down the middle of the streets, which were plowed, but empty of traffic. It was a big neighborhood party, yet quiet and relaxed. It was a wonderful snow day.

- Norma Shepperd  
37 Bailey Road



IN FEBRUARY OF 1978 I was a senior at Merrimack College living in an apartment on South Broadway in Lawrence with four other seniors. The timing of the blizzard was perfect as school was canceled for the rest of the week. The rest of that week was spent doing what most other college students were doing as the Merrimack Valley tried to dig out. Nothing. We did devote some of our time assisting the neighborhood with shoveling. However, most of our time was spent playing cards or throwing darts. We also spent a great deal of time playing Pong, the first video game. There were also frequent visits to the corner refreshment stand. These were necessary to keep up our strength. Cards, darts and Pong were taking a lot out of us. This band of desperados were also making frequent illegal drives to campus, as we were sick of looking at each other. We also didn't want to miss any of the numerous student groups that were occurring.

My most vivid memory however, occurred on Friday, Feb. 10. The driving ban was still in effect. My father had passed away the previous summer. It happened that his birthday was Feb. 10. A birthday memorial Mass was planned for that day in Lynn, where I grew up. I decided that facing the consequences of my illegal mad dash to Lynn was much preferable to skipping this Mass and having to face my old man when I eventually ascended to descend to his current place of residence. Not to mention

my mother. That trip down Route 114 and Route 1 on my way to Lynn was one of the most surreal experiences I have ever had. Nothing but snow and 10- to 15-foot snowbanks. There was not a soul on the road. I was finally stopped as I tried to enter Lynn. I explained my predicament to the police officer. He told me he had heard dozens of stories during the past week but mine was the best. He sent me on my way. It also helped that he remembered my father, who had been a probation officer. When I finally reached my house I realized how lucky I had been to reach my destination and that my law-breaking had to come to an end. We walked to church that day.

- Joe Magner  
5 Farrington Way, North



MY WIFE, Marjorie Dennis, has lived in Andover since 1986, but has said she will never forget the height of the snowdrifts outside her Framingham home following the Blizzard of '78.

- Robert Dennis  
18 Orchard Crossroad



I WAS WORKING, AND HAD A BOSS who had an aversion to allowing us to go home during any storm. His advice was always the same: "Let's wait here, where it's safe, and let the other companies close. Then when we go, the roads will be clear."

By 1 p.m., the entire division was in revolt as it was clear that the storm was here to stay. I started on my 20-minute drive home, from Burlington to Medford.

Two hours later, I got to my street. It was 3, there wasn't a lot of light left and I was starting to feel ill. I saw one place to park, but it caused the end of my car to slightly block a driveway. So I went around the block. Three times. Took me until 4 to do it, but I finally said to myself, "The guy who owns the driveway is just going to have to somehow understand."

I went to my apartment, took sick, and slept the rest of the day and most of the next day. When I got up, well enough to go out, no worries! Nothing had changed, the plows hadn't got to my street yet and there was two feet of snow everywhere you looked.

My car was buried, as was everyone's. It turned out the person whose driveway I blocked found another driveway for himself! Route 128. He got his car back a week later.

And my boss? I wound up working for him for another 15 years. The division was closed for a week. And we never let him forget it.

- Gerry Unwin  
8 Fern Road



I RECALL MY THIRD WINTER in Andover through the eyes of an eager 10-year-old boy. That said, how could the experience have been anything other than the wonderland that winter is meant to be for a young New Englander? Tunnel-digging and snowball fights replacing math and English made for fun-filled days while candle-lit, wood-stove-heated evenings created lasting family memories with cribbage, storytelling and camp-style dinners. Even our beloved dog, Gus, relished frolicking through the uncommonly-deep snow until ice balls the size of grapefruits clung to his legs. Now a parent, I realize these "special" nights huddled by the fire must have seemed more fantastic to my brother and me than to Mom and Dad, who at least pretended to share our enthusiasm.

While these are my initial thoughts of the Blizzard of '78, I cannot say I was completely ignorant of the toll it was taking on others less fortunate. Primarily from headlines I read and news radio flashes I heard, it occurred to me that people were suffering, if not dying, daily. I remember not fully understanding how something so fun for me could be so bad for someone else, but, after all, at age 10 the thought of these terrible circumstances ceased to exist the moment I stepped outside to play.

I don't know if we'll ever see such a winter again in these parts - maybe it's just me who thinks they don't make them like they used to - but if we do, I hope my kids are young enough to enjoy in the way I did 25 years ago, but also "old" enough to appreciate and respect what they've been through.

- Jeff Ashworth  
28 Cross Street



# Sports

## AHS ROUNDUP

### Boys on a collision course

#### Big basketball showdown set for Friday night

By Rick Harrison

This one should be off-the-charts in its intensity and excitement.

In fact, it will be one of the biggest regular season boys basketball games in the state of Massachusetts this winter.

It's like starting the Division 1 North Tournament three weeks early.

Tonight at the Dunn Gym the unstoppable force will collide with the immovable object, as the Andover and Central Catholic boys basketball teams look horns for Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 supremacy (7:30 p.m. tipoff).

The place will be packed to the rafters and it's going to get noisy. The joint will definitely be jumping.

"All I can say is get there early," offered AHS coach and Central Catholic alum Dave Fazio, who hopes his troops will feel at ease in the middle of an anticipated zoo-like atmosphere.

Both teams are undefeated in conference play, at 10-0, while the Golden Warriors are 15-1 overall (12 straight wins) and Central is 15-0 entering this basketball Armageddon.

The winner slips into the MVC driver's seat — taking sole possession of first — at least until Feb. 19 when the rematch is scheduled at the Central Catholic Auditorium.

The series has produced a lot of must-see games over the years.

Last winter, after losing to Central 58-52 in the Christmas Tournament, Andover swept both regular-season games (66-53 and 85-69) on the way to the MVC title.

Two years ago the archrivals split, AHS winning 57-55 and Central taking the rematch, 72-53.

The Golden Warriors have won five of the last eight, but since the 1989-90 season Central owns an overall 17-12 advantage.

"These are the kind of games you want to play in," said Fazio. "These games will tell us how good we are."

Andover High girls teams were chasing Merrimack Valley Conference titles in gymnastics and track yesterday, after *Townsmen* presstime.

In gymnastics, Chelmsford invaded the Dunn Gym for a showdown last night as both AHS and the Lions entered the dual-meet finale with 5-0 conference records.

In track, the Lady Warriors still have an outside shot at winning the championship. They needed both a win over undefeated Chelmsford yesterday afternoon and a Lowell upset of Central Catholic in today's finale between those teams at Lowell.

The fledgling Andover High girls varsity ice hockey team moved within one point of Division 2 North Tournament qualification.

The Lady Warriors entered the week with an 8-4-3 overall record, needing just a tie in one of their final five games against Boston Latin, Arlington High, Acton-Boxboro, Lincoln-Sudbury and St. Bernard's High of Fitchburg.

Earlier this season AHS lost to defending state champ Latin (7-0) and Lincoln-Sudbury (6-1), tied A-B (2-2) and defeated both Arlington (2-1) and St. Bernard's (5-1).

The AHS girls alpine ski team completed its second consecutive undefeated season, beating Masconomet Regional of Topsfield 99-39 for its 20th straight win.

The Lady Warriors, 10-0, won their second North Shore League title in a row and qualified for the All-State Championship Meet on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at Berkshire East Ski Area in Charlemont.

## Baseball, hoop summer camps preparing for season

The Hoop Town Basketball Camp, run by Dave Fazio, will have three weekly sessions for girls and three weekly sessions for boys this summer.

The girls camp will run June 30-July 3, July 7-11 and July 14-18, while the boys will run July 21-25, July 28-Aug. 1 and Aug. 4-8.

Camp brochures will be available this Saturday at the Andover High Field House between noon and 6 p.m.

Those interested can pick up a brochure and they will also be able to register for the camp at the door.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

Both Andover and Central Catholic are coming off hard-fought wins on Tuesday night, the Golden Warriors edging highly-ranked South Shore power Brockton High, 50-47, and the Raiders struggling past stubborn and always-unpredictable Lowell, 65-57.

The win over Brockton, along with a recent 76-64 triumph over Methuen, extended the AHS boys varsity hoop win streak to 12 straight games.

### Schedule

After tomorrow night's Central showdown, coach Dave Fazio's Fab Five will play at Haverhill next Tuesday before hosting Lowell on Thursday (both 7:30 p.m. games).

### Scoring leaders

Chris Vetrano has 353 points through 16 games (22.1 ave.), while Jack Barrett boasts 201 points and Kevin Barrett 192.

Vetrano has 1,363 career points as he closes in on Tom McLaughlin's AHS boys record of 1,564 scored in three seasons between 1997-2000.

Charlotte Muller's 1,600 points are the most ever for all AHS hoop players, boys and girls.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Andover High girls varsity basketball team has closed within five wins of an undefeated regular season, improving to 15-0 overall and 11-0 in Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 play with recent victories over Methuen, 80-50, and first-time non-league foe Ponaganset, R.I. High, 54-32.

The Lady Warriors have won 28 straight MVC games since a 54-53 loss to Central Catholic on Feb. 5, 2001.

They are also 53-1 in conference games since the beginning of the 1999-00 season.

### Schedule

The locals are nearing the end of an eight-day break between games, one that should give Capt. Jenny Muller time to shake off the persistent flu bug that refused to go away quickly and quietly.

The next five games are all against teams with the potential to spoil the bid for a perfect 20-0 campaign.

Andover returns to MVC play this Sunday evening at Central Catholic (5 p.m.), and then wraps up the conference season next week with games Tuesday night at home versus Haverhill and Thursday night at Lowell (both 7:30 p.m.).

Haverhill gave Andover a huge scare the first time around, leading by eight at the half and by seven with two minutes left before the locals rallied for a 43-42 victory on Jackie Powers' clutch baseline shot in the closing seconds.

The always-competitive four-team AT&T Broadband Tournament is set for Feb. 15-16 at Boston College High in Dorchester.

Andover will meet Foxboro in the semifinal round at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 15, while Fontbonne Academy and Somerville collide in the other semifinal.

The two winners clash in the championship game the following day.

The Lady Warriors are the defending champs, having beaten North Quincy (53-41) and title-round opponent Somerville (58-47) last February.

### Leading scorers

Jenny Muller is the top scorer through 15 games with 228 points, while Ashley McLaughlin

has 206 and Jackie Powers 100.

Muller also has 1,306 career points, trailing only her older sister Charlotte (1,600 points) on the all-time AHS girls hoop scoring list.

## INDOOR TRACK

In a dual-meet battle of the unbeaten, the AHS girls were dealt a severe blow in their quest for the Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 title when Central Catholic edged the locals, 45-41, at the AHS Field House.

The Lady Warriors still have an outside shot at winning the championship, but needed both a win over undefeated Chelmsford (yesterday after *Townsmen* presstime) and a Lowell upset of Central Catholic in their finale today at Lowell.

Andover stood 7-1 overall and 3-1 in division meets, while Central is 3-0-1 and Chelmsford 2-0-2.

The Andover boys, who lost to Central 53-33, fell to 3-5 overall.

### Schedule

The AHS dual-meet season wrapped up yesterday, after *Townsmen* presstime, when Chelmsford invaded the AHS Field House.

## Central Catholic 45 Andover girls 41

The Lady Warriors placed first in only four of the 10 events, but almost pulled out the win with a show of depth that included six seconds and five third places.

Andover was clinging to a 41-40 lead entering the final event, the 4x400 relay.

Central won that pivotal race convincingly, crossing the line in 4:18.0 to pick up five points. AHS was almost seven seconds behind (4:24.7).

Stephanie Casper had the top local performance, winning the 600 run in 1:29.5 which was just a half-second off the school record of 1:29.0 run by Maggie Meyers three decades ago.

"It's the oldest girls' indoor track record on the Andover books, dating back to the 1970s, and Stephanie almost had it," said coach Iworsley.

Felicia Thompson led a sweep of the shot put with a 30'5 1/4" toss, while Erica Durie took second place (28'11 1/2") and Casper third (26'10 1/2").

Michelle Pirro finished first in the mile with a personal-best 5:38.0 clocking, and freshman Brittany Pierce was tops in the 50 hurdles (personal-best 7.6).

Jenny Dlesk tied her personal best and equalled the old MVC record in the 50 dash with her 6.2 time. But Central's Gillian Mundry won the race by setting a new conference standard of 6.1.

Other local runners-up were Amanda Carlson in the 300 dash (personal-best 40.2), Amanda Buchholz in the 1000 run (personal-best 3:03.0), two-miler Jazzy Dingler (12:35.9) and high jumper Becca Fink (4'10").

Finishing third were sprinter Caroline Pierce in the 50 dash (6.6), Emily Korba (600 run, personal-best 1:35.4) and Emily Pearson (1000 run, personal-best 3:03.3).

"It was a tough one to lose but with all the personal bests it's obvious all our girls were working hard and gave it their best shot," said Iworsley.

Helping Central to the win was Andover resident Justine Douvadjian, who placed third in the 300 and ran the second leg of the 4x400 relay which included Mundry, Jackie Chase and Erin Doherty.

Doherty also won two individual events, the 300 in 38.9 and the high jump (4'10").

## GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

With freshman forward Maria Nasta netting her second hat trick in four games, the Andover High girls varsity ice hockey team routed Chelmsford, 8-1, in recent North Cape League Division 1 play at Phillips Academy's Smith Rink.

AHS also defeated Marblehead, 5-3, tied Masconomet Regional of Topsfield, 3-3, and lost a 7-0 decision to Belmont High.

Overall AHS is 8-4-3 including 4-3-3 in NCL Division 1 play.

### Schedule

Coach Bill McCarthy's Lady Warriors host Lincoln-Sudbury Saturday night at 8:30 at PA.

### Scoring leaders

Three players have 20 points each after 15 games: Maria Nasta with 12 goals and 8 assists, Adrienne Shea 10 goals, 10 assists and Ashley Malins 8 goals, 12 assists.



Varsity hockey teammates surround senior captain Mike Corey (in back) after he scored a goal in the second period to put the Golden Warriors ahead of rival Westford Academy last Wednesday. The game ended in a 3-3 tie.

Jacqui Munro boasts 3-9-12 points and Kim Chandler 6-4-10.

## BOYS ICE HOCKEY

Coach Bill Cullen's Andover High boys varsity hockey team stood 6-4-4 overall, including 3-2-3 in Merrimack Valley/Dual County League Division 2, following a recent 3-3 tie with division foe Westford Academy and a 5-1 loss to division rival Lincoln-Sudbury.

### Schedule

The Golden Warriors had a tall order last night as they hosted MV/DCL Division 1 co-leader Chelmsford (9-7) at the Merrimack Valley Forum.

Saturday afternoon MV/DCL Division 3 power Dracut (12-3-1) is at the Forum, and the locals are then idle until the league finale next Saturday afternoon at Methuen High (2:20 p.m.).

### Scoring leaders

Steve Johnson led the offense after 14 games with 11 goals and 11 assists for 22 points.

Following are Mike Corey at 9-7-16 and Andrew Santos at 3-12-15.

## ALPINE SKI

The unbeaten Andover High girls swept the top six places on the way to their title-clinching 99-39 triumph over Masconomet Regional in the regular-season finale at Bradford Hill Ski Area.

The boys improved to 8-3 after splitting a tri-meet, defeating Masconomet 98-37 and bowing to St. John's Prep, 83-52.

### Schedule

The AHS boys wrapped up the 2003 dual-meet campaign earlier this week, after *Townsmen* presstime, with a tri-meet against Methuen and Austin Prep and a dual meet versus North Andover.

The annual Interscholastic Race is scheduled next Tuesday afternoon at Bradford Hill (3:30 p.m.).

## BOYS SWIM & DIVE

The Andover High boys varsity swim and dive team, which will finish second to Chelmsford in the final Merrimack Valley Conference dual-meet standings, rode the recent heroics of Chris Mullen and Sean Geary to a 91-83 win over Lowell at the Greater Lawrence Vo-Tech pool.

It marked the seventh victory of the season for Andover, which entered its dual-meet finale at 7-2 overall.

### Schedule

Coach Mark Taffe's AHS squad wrapped up the dual-meet campaign yesterday, after *Townsmen* presstime, against Central Catholic.

The locals will next compete in the annual MVC Championship Meet tomorrow evening at Haverhill's White Natatorium.

## GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Coach Julie Chapman's Lady Warriors, 11-0 overall and 5-0 in the MVC, have now won 32 consecutive dual meets since a 135.55 to 133.60 loss to Methuen on Feb. 4, 1999.

They are also 94-5 in their last 99 and 115-13 since the middle of the 1989 season.

### Schedule

The MVC dual-meet title was on the line last night, after *Townsmen* presstime, when Chelmsford invaded the Dunn Gym for a showdown.

Both Andover and Chelmsford entered the dual-meet finale with 5-0 conference records.

The annual MVC Championship Meet is this Saturday (3 p.m.) at the Methuen High Field House.

## GOLD 160.40. BLUE 159.30

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Libby Fortier (G) 8.7; 2. Shen Bernstein (B) 8.5; 3. Katie Infantino (G) 8.2; 4. Meghan Harrington (B) 8.0; 5. Katie Cail (G) 7.8; 6. (tie) Sarah Coneeny (G) and AnnMarie Cashman (B) 7.6; 8. Jen Palermo (B) 7.8.

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Bernstein (B) 8.8; 2. Infantino (G) 8.75; 3. (tie) Laura Lamontagne (G), Andrea Krnelow (G) and Cashman (B) 8.3; 6. Cail (G) 8.2; 7. Donna Lamontagne (B) 7.8; 8. (tie) Andrea Coiro (G) and Jen Pavelka (G) 7.6; 10. (tie) Harrington (B) and Lauren Reed (B) 7.5; 12. (tie) Heather Barry (B) and Ashley Dias (G) 7.0; 14. Aja Nicholson (B) 6.7.

VAULT: 1. Forber (G) 8.55; 2. Harrington (B) 8.4; 3. Coneeny (G) 8.3; 4. Cashman (B) 8.0; 5. Lamontagne (B) 7.9; 6. Reed (B) 7.8; 7. Coiro (G) 7.6; 8. Krnelow (G) and Jenn Mason (B) 7.5.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Bernstein (B) 9.2; 2. (tie) Cail (G) and Coneeny (G) 8.6; 4. Lisa Valleria (G) 8.5; 5. Mason (B) 8.0; 6. Rachel Goldman (G) 7.5; 7. Nicholson (B) 7.4; 8. (tie) Sonai Mehta (B) and Sheila Tayebi (G) 7.2.

## BOYS GYMNASTICS

AHS had some strong individual performances in three recent meets, which ended in a 141.50 to 47.00 win over Revere, a 155.00 to 141.50 loss to Newton North and a 143.00 to 130.40 loss to Lowell.

The Golden Warriors, 2-6 overall, wrap up the 2003 dual-meet season tomorrow night at Newton South (7 p.m.).

The annual State Coaches Individual Meet is next Monday night at Attleboro High (7 p.m.), and the State Team Championship Meet is also set for Attleboro next Thursday (7 p.m.).

[Editor's note: Due to space constraints, AHS ROUNDUP was condensed this week. Read the complete ROUNDUP online, at [www.andovertownsmen.com](http://www.andovertownsmen.com).]

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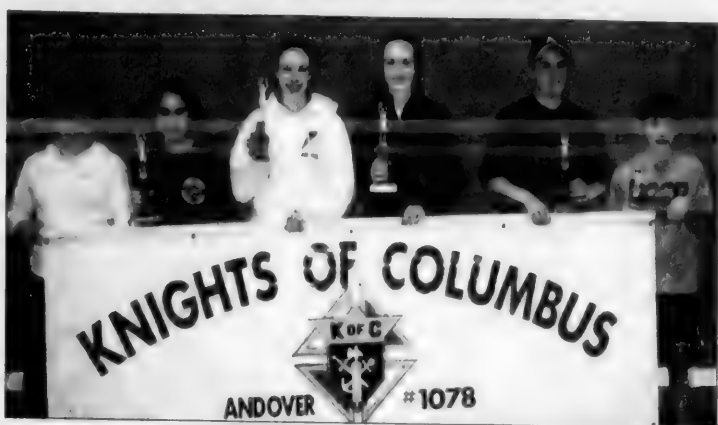
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## FREE THROW CHAMPS



Competition champs announced by Andover Knights of Columbus - The 2003 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship winners are, from left: Kara Meilillo, Christina Iannalfo, Emily Alaimo, Rebecca Zinsmeister, Ryan Kemp and Patrick LaBrie. Twelve girls and boys, ages 10-14, were named local champions of the 2003 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the district level. The Andover K of C sponsored the local competition Saturday, Jan. 18. All youngsters ages 10-14 were eligible to participate. Christina Iannalfo was the 10-year-old girls champion, and Patrick LaBrie was the winner of the 10-year-old boys division. In the 11-year-old category, the girls champion was Emily Zinsmeister, while Alex Goodman was the boys champion. Twelve-year-old winners in the boys and girls divisions were Rebecca Zinsmeister and Ryan Kemp. The 13-year-old girls division was won by Emily Alaimo and Kara Meilillo won the 14-year-old girls division. Each of these winners will compete in the district competition held next month, with an eye toward moving on to the state championship.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

## TOWN OF ANDOVER

**PLANNING BOARD**  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be convened on Tuesday, February 25, 2003, at 9:30 p.m., in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, Bartlett Street, on the application of Twelve Chestnut Street, LLC, for a Special Permit for a Change in Parking Space Requirements, under Section 5.1.12. of the Zoning By-Law, said application associated with a Site Plan Review to be conducted concurrently for an expansion of an existing office building located at 12 Chestnut Street, as identified as Lot 88 on Assessor's Map 55. The application and associated plans may be examined in the Planning Department between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD**  
Paul Salafia,  
Chairman  
February 6 & 13, 2002

**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate**  
**And Family Court**  
**Department**  
**ESSEX Division**  
**Docket No.**

**01P3020EP1**  
In the ESTATE OF  
CECILE M.  
MC CARTHY  
Late of ANDOVER  
In the County of  
ESSEX  
Date of Death  
December 5, 2002

## NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will and codicil of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that CAROL ANN KELLY of MCLEAN in the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA be appointed executrix, named in the will to serve without surety EILEEN MARIE WALSH and LINDA MAY COLE, the other executrices named in said will, both having declined to serve.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON FEBRUARY 24, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, January 23, 2003.

Pamela Casey  
O'Brien Register of  
Probate Court

February 6, 2003

**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate**  
**And Family Court**  
**Department**  
**ESSEX Division**  
**Docket No.**

**03P0131EP1**  
In the ESTATE OF  
EILEEN P. NOLAN  
Late of ANDOVER  
In the County of  
ESSEX  
Date of Death  
December 13, 2002

## NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will and codicil of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that CHARLES H. NOLAN of IPSWICH in the County of ESSEX and THOMAS H. NOLAN JR. of ANDOVER in the County of ESSEX be appointed executors, named in the will to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON MARCH 3, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, January 29, 2003.

Pamela Casey  
O'Brien Register of  
Probate Court

February 6, 2003

**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate**  
**And Family Court**  
**Department**  
**ESSEX Division**  
**Docket No.**

**03P0025EP1**  
In the ESTATE OF  
PAUL BRUK JR.  
Late of ANDOVER  
In the County of  
ESSEX  
Date of Death  
August 31, 2002

## NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will and codicil of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that CAROL ANN KELLY of MCLEAN in the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA be appointed executrix, named in the will to serve without surety EILEEN MARIE WALSH and LINDA MAY COLE, the other executrices named in said will, both having declined to serve.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON FEBRUARY 24, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, January 23, 2003.

Pamela Casey  
O'Brien Register of  
Probate Court

February 6, 2003

**ESSEX and DOUGLAS O. BRUK OF MANVILLE in the State of RHODE ISLAND be appointed executors, named in the will to serve without surety.**

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON MARCH 3, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, January 24, 2003.

Pamela Casey  
O'Brien Register of  
Probate Court

February 6, 2003

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate**  
**And Family Court**  
**Department**  
**Essex Division**  
**Docket No.**

## Notice Of Fiduciary's Account

To all persons interested in the estate of ALFRED L. RIPLEY late Andover, Essex County. You are hereby notified pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 72 that the forty-eighth and final account of FLEET NATIONAL BANK as Trustee (the fiduciary) under the will of said deceased for the benefit of PHILIP F. RIPLEY AND OTHERS has been presented to said Court for allowance.

If you desire to preserve your right to file an objection to said account(s), you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at Salem on or before the third day of March, 2003, the return day of this citation. You may upon written request by registered or certified mail to the fiduciary, or to the attorney for the fiduciary obtain without cost a copy of said account. If you desire to object to any item of said account, you must in addition to filing a written appearance as aforesaid, file within thirty days after said return day or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order a written statement of each such item together with the grounds for each objection thereto, a copy to be served upon the fiduciary.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, JANUARY 21, 2003.

Pamela Casey, O'Brien Register of Probate Court  
February 6, 2003

## MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John Ventre a/k/a John W. Ventre and Janice Ventre to New Century Mortgage Corporation, dated December 19, 2000 and recorded with the Essex County (N.D.) Registry of Deeds at Book 6037, Page 321, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, and in which the mortgaged premises consist of certain real estate located in Andover, known as and numbered 44 Farrwood Drive, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th day of March, 2003, at said mortgaged premises in Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

## TO WIT:

The land in Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, being shown as Lot #33 on Sheet 1 of a plan entitled "Subdivision Plan of Farrwood Forest, Andover, Massachusetts" owner Roy R. Farr, Sagamore Drive, Scale 1"=40' 10 April, 1967, Raymond C. Pressey Inc., C.E. recorded with Essex North District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 5806, said lot being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

**NORTHERLY** by the Southerly line of the Circular portion of Farrwood Drive 89.01 feet  
**EASTERLY** by Lot #34, 260.81 feet.  
**SOUTHERLY** by land of New England Power Company 230.00 feet  
**SOUTHWESTERLY** by land now or formerly of Thomas A. Thompson 73.69 feet and  
**NORTHWESTERLY** by Lot #32 on said plan, 238.29 feet

Containing 48,010 sq. ft. as shown on said plan

For title see Book 2086 Page 292

pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 5.

Witness, JOHN C. STEVENS, III, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Salem this twenty-fourth day of January 2003.

Pamela Casey  
O'Brien Register of Probate Court  
February 6, 2003

**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate**  
**And Family Court**  
**Department**  
**ESSEX Division**  
**Docket No.**

## 02P3057GI1

In the Matter Of  
ELISHA ANDERSON  
Of NORTH ANDOVER  
In the County of  
ESSEX

## NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MENTALLY ILL PERSON

To ELISHA ANDERSON of NORTH ANDOVER in the County of ESSEX his heirs apparent or presumptive a petition has been filed in the above captioned matter alleging that said ELISHA ANDERSON is a mentally ill person and praying that SOME OTHER SUITABLE PERSON be appointed guardian, to serve without surety, of the person - with the authority to administer antipsychotic medications in accordance with the treatment plan.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 7, 2003.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, JANUARY 21, 2003.

Pamela Casey, O'Brien Register of Probate Court  
February 6, 2003

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**LAND COURT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**

## Case No. 286697

To **Pria L. Singh**, and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended, General Bank, claiming to be the holder of a mortgage covering real property in Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, known as 5 Freemont Lane, given by Pria L. Singh to Liberty Bank and Trust Company, predecessor in interest to General Bank, dated August 12, 1999, recorded with the Essex North District

Said sale shall be subject to all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, liens or claims in the nature of liens, existing encumbrances of record, Federal, State and Municipal taxes or tax liens, municipal betterments and easements, if any, created prior to the mortgage being foreclosed upon. Said premises shall also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupancies by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction, which tenancies or occupancies are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, and also to all laws and ordinances, including but not limited to all building and zoning laws and ordinances.

## TERMS OF SALE

Ten Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$10,000.00) shall be paid in cash to the Bank cashier's check to the purchaser at the time and place of sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or bank cashier's check at the office of Steven A. Ross, Esq., Gilmarin, Magence & Ross, P.C., 376 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. The successful bidder of the sale of the premises shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale, containing the above terms at the Auction Sale.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

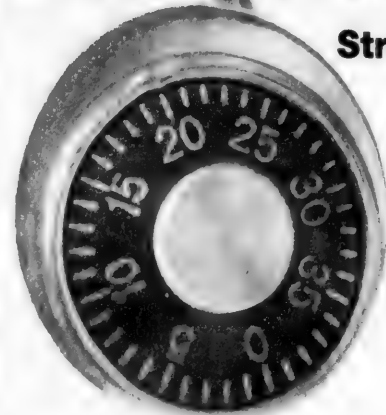
The postal address of the mortgaged premises is known to me as 44 Farrwood Drive, Andover, MA 01810.

Mortgagee Eastern Savings Bank, f/sb  
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Suite 200  
Hunt Valley, MD 21031

Mortgagees Attorney Steven A. Ross, Esq.  
Gilmarin, Magence & Ross, P.C.  
376 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-275-9000

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February 6, 2003 & 20, 2003

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# ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

February 6, 2003



## Financial Planning



# A look at a few financial planners in town

By Thea Shapiro

Residents looking for a financial planner, will find there are quite a few to select from in Andover. How does one choose? All of the planners the *Townsmen* spoke with share some basic beliefs and practices:

1. People's needs vary greatly. What's good for one investor may not be good for another.
2. Face-to-face time between planner and client is very important.
3. All planners will work with their client's lawyers, and, if needed, will recommend a lawyer.
4. If a client already has investments, planners prefer to review them.
5. A client's level of finances will determine the services they may need or want.

Here is a look at several Andover financial institutions.



**Andover Financial Advisors**  
249 Lowell Street  
978-475-1812  
[www.andoverfinancial.com](http://www.andoverfinancial.com)

Charlie Erban, registered investment advisor, says his company offers more than 30 years of experience. Training on Wall Street in the late 1960s and an accounting and finance degree from Bentley College give him a solid background in the marketplace, he says. Andover Financial Advisors offers investments from the angle of saving on taxes. "We have a thorough understanding of the financial life cycles," says Erban. "People accumulate in their 30s and 40s, and think about investing for college. People in their 50s and 60s are at a different stage as they think about retirement and saving. The middle income people have the most to lose by not understanding investments and taxes."

"Without proper planning, Erban said, "people can pay substantially higher taxes, unnecessarily, on something as basic as their monthly Social Security check for the rest of their lives."



**Edward Jones**  
Chie Y. Gens  
978-475-4213  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

The new financial face in town, Edward Jones, is a big firm with a personal touch, says Chie Gens, investment representative. Edward Jones has offices in every town in which they offer services. Right now they have offices in North Andover, Reading, Haverhill, Chelmsford, and Georgetown and are looking for space in Andover. They take a conservative "buy and hold" approach to investments and focus on individual and small business investors. "The good thing about being part a large firm," says Gens, "is we can offer a wide range of products and services that fits individual needs; from saving for education, to retirement plans, wealth family protection such as estate planning and trusts services and insurance. And because we have a large research arm, we know what the best strategies are for our clients." Edward Jones offers clients monthly broadcast seminars on a variety of financial issues.



**Peek Financial Services Inc.**  
63 Park Street  
978-623-8060  
[www.peakfin.com](http://www.peakfin.com)

"Investing is a mix of art and science," says Robert Peek, Chartered Financial Consultant for Peek Financial Services Inc. "It's the art of understanding the client's needs and the science of selecting asset categories that work well together. Investing is a very personal thing, something good for one person may not be good for another."

When working with a new client, Peek Financial says it learns about the client's cash flow needs, current sources of income, and future sources like pensions, Social Security, and 401K plans. It assesses how things are owned and looks at changes that may be on the horizon: a job change, a coming relocation, a potential inheri-

tance.

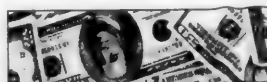
Then the science comes into play. Its objective is to develop a portfolio that will provide the least amount of fluctuation for a given level of return.



**RBC Dain Rauscher**  
100 Brickstone Square  
978-773-3600  
[www.rbcdain.com](http://www.rbcdain.com)

A people-focused culture is what separates RBC Dain Rauscher from other investment firms, according to vice president Judith Giarrusso. One of the 10 largest full-service investment firms in the US, RBC Dain Rauscher is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada.

"Having long-term relationships with our clients is the most important measure of our success," says Giarrusso. "RBC Dain Rauscher's credo: do all we can do to know our clients, and based on this knowledge, do all we can do to meet our clients' needs and investment objectives. As a full-service firm, RBC Dain Rauscher offers a complete range of investment products and services, from stocks, bonds and mutual funds, to estate and retirement planning, to insurance and annuities." Giarrusso notes that RBC Dain Rauscher does not have proprietary products and only recommends those investments that fit the clients' needs and goals. In addition, Giarrusso says, it can provide access to local and regional investment opportunities.



**Ronald R. Hill, CLU, ChFC**  
Baystate Financial Services  
10 Essex St.  
978-475-9212

Email:  
[BFSAndover1@aol.com](mailto:BFSAndover1@aol.com)

"We are a full-service financial planning company; we offer investments, insurance, estate planning and many other financial services," says Ronald R. Hill, CLU, ChFC, financial representative for Baystate Financial Services. The main thing

that distinguishes us from the other financial businesses in town is that we are New England's oldest and largest financial services company headquartered in Boston. We have been around for over 100 years, and our expertise is hard to match," Hill says. "Investments and insurance issues are handled with equal expertise. We have a support staff of 30 to 40 people in the Boston office. This support staff offers research, technology and attorneys that work with our Andover office to add value both to our knowledge background and to enhance the work we do for clients."

"We believe in being highly personalized," says Hill, "and as a local branch office can offer our customers the flexibility, for instance, to meet with us on Saturdays and in the evening without having to go into Boston or interrupt the workday during the week."

Baystate Financial Services is not a quick transaction firm. It invests mid- to long range and makes occasional adjustments when necessary. "Once our clients invest their trust in us, continuing to provide service to them is very important to us," said Hill.

Ronald Hill has been associated with Baystate Financial Services for the past 20 years and he says brings solid experience and up-to-date knowledge to his working relationships with his clients.

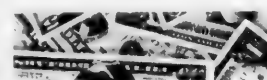


**Ryan Financial**  
89 Main Street  
978-475-1500  
[www.ryanfinancial.com](http://www.ryanfinancial.com)

William T. Ryan, president of Ryan Financial, says "We are a 100-percent independent wealth-management firm. We work directly for the client, without the conflicts of interest inherent in sales-oriented firms. No one tell us what products we have to use."

Ryan Financial emphasizes client contact. It meets with clients for a formal review four times a year and speaks with clients every six weeks. "We design the program to fit the needs of the client," says Ryan. "We start by looking at all their

statements, then we evaluate them." Once the investment side is underway, Ryan Financial looks at the estate side. Workers conduct family meetings with two to three generations, so that everyone understands the family investments, trusts and wills.



**Topham, Fardy & Co.**  
26 Essex Street  
978-475-6460

Topham, Fardy & Co. provides financial planning services and products through its affiliate TF Financial Services, LLC. Walter Topham partner of Topham, Fardy & Co., says his affiliate company is supported by a network of specialists in the financial, insurance and investing services. Topham says, "Our clients include individuals, trusts and corporations. The scope and experience of our special representatives allow us to develop sophisticated as well as traditional financial, insurance and investment plans."



**Wachovia Securities**  
One Tech Drive  
978-794-7782

Marco Calabro, financial advisor for Wachovia Securities, says he specializes in working with people on fixed incomes securities. He does a lot of their investing in the bond market. One strategy, bond laddering, offers protection against the volatility of interest rates and supplies a steady stream of income, he says. He invests in treasury bonds, corporate bonds, agency and tax-free municipal bonds.

**"Nex to being shot at and missed, nothing is really quite as satisfying as an income tax refund"**

F.J. RAYMOND  
FROM THE IRS TAX QUOTE FILES



## Support local and school libraries

(TF) – It's hard to find anyone out there who doesn't appreciate libraries. After all, from sponsoring reading groups and literacy programs, to cataloguing community history through newspapers and providing free Internet access and computer training, libraries provide an invaluable service to the community.

Although government funding supports the basic operations of the majority of the nation's 117,418 libraries, they are highly dependent on help from individuals, corporations and foundations to ensure they remain free. And, as city and local governments continue to close budget gaps caused by the shaky economy, library funding in many places is decreasing year after year.

That's where people come in. February is Library Lover's Month, a celebration of school, public, and private libraries of all types, and a time for people to get involved to recognize and support libraries in their community. Following are some ideas to get started:

### Contribute

Cash gifts to libraries are tax-

deductible, and many offer endowments, memorial programs and other opportunities to financially support library services. Some other ways people can contribute to local libraries include:

- Buying a library a subscription to the local newspaper or a popular magazine.
- Donating books.
- Remembering an area library in their estate planning.
- Nominating a community library for their company's program for charitable giving.

### Volunteer

Many libraries are understaffed, and the gift of one's time can be a valuable donation. Opportunities include:

- Delivering reading material to the elderly or ill who are shut-in.
- Read stories to children or help with class visits.
- Shelve books care for plants.

### Promote

Write to state and federal legislators and demand that library service be viewed (and funded) as a vital public service.

- Support library referenda in local elections.

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Remember, too, that integrating your tax plan into an overall wealth management plan is key to minimizing estate taxes and maximizing the assets you transfer to beneficiaries. Our strategies address; asset protection, retirement, business succession, liquidity and other aspects of financial well being.

The tax planning professionals at Tuscano & Ardito specialize in advising clients about ways to minimize taxes and achieve financial objectives. We would welcome and look forward to helping you keep more of your money and achieve your financial goals.

Please contact us to discuss your specific strategies. Call Lawrence J. Ardito, CPA, ABV, George J. Toscano Jr., CPA, MST or Roberta L. McCollum, CPA, MBA at 978-688-2880. Fax: 978-688-2759. Tuscano & Ardito is located at 40 Bayfield Drive in North Andover. You can also visit the firm's Online Tax Advisor at [www.tandacpa.com](http://www.tandacpa.com).



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# \$1 million not needed – but a new personal budget is

(TF) – People would like to stretch their paychecks a little further each month. Sometimes they think they have to make a million dollars to enjoy some of life's little luxuries. However, personal financial budgeting properly may be the answer to financial woes.

It is quite easy for some to live beyond his or her means if he cannot see in black and white what he is earning in relation to his spending. Buying items on credit, and withdrawing cash from ATM machines, can end up depleting money and push someone deep into debt.

It is important to learn how to effectively manage money. A financial consultant may be able to help, and there are several Web sites that give tips on budgeting, investing and saving for retirement. In the meantime, people can check out these ideas for creating a budget and living within its boundaries.

## Setting up a budget

Before doing anything, it's important to find out just where the money is going each month. Try this:

- Take out three months worth of pay stubs and determine the average monthly income.
- Gather three months of bills, add them up and divide by three to calculate the monthly fixed expenses like rent or mortgage, utilities and phone, car payment, insurance and student loan payments.
- Add together three months of other monthly expenses, including groceries, clothing, credit card expenses, medical bills and cash outlays. Divide by three

and add the results to the monthly expense total.

- Now, evaluate the expenses. Look for opportunities to economize, and develop a plan to cut back spending in specific areas.
- Determine how much money can reasonably be spent each month then track the money by entering actual expenses into a ledger or computer program. Personal finance software may make it easier to gain an accurate overview of the spending and locate problematic habits.



## Living with a budget

The next task is to learn what to do with the information gathered.

- Track the income and expenses monthly to evaluate how the plan is working, then fine-tune it to produce the desired results.
- People spending less than anticipated, may want to put more money in their savings account to help out with unexpected expenses.
- Set up a savings plan like a passbook account, certificate of deposit (CD) or individual retirement account (IRA), and begin making regular deposits to the account.
- People spending more than anticipated, may want to try identifying the items that are really not needed (such as new clothes, CDs, or expensive dinners) and avoid purchasing them until they are back within the budget.

## Start managing money

(TF) – How can people stop relying on luck and begin protecting financial security in this uncertain economy? They can start this spring by dusting the cobwebs off financial plans. They can also use the following handy tips from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) to get finances organized and money managed in 2003:

- Itemize expenses. Evaluate spending habits and create a realistic budget to use as a guide throughout the year. Review checkbook records and receipts from the last six to 12 months to track where the majority of money is being spent.
- Pay off debts. Reduce credit-card debt by first paying off the bills with the highest interest rates, then transfer the remaining debt to a low-interest credit card.
- Maximize finances by consulting a qualified financial planner. A qualified financial planner like a licensed CPA/PFS (personal financial specialist), a credential awarded by the AICPA to certified public accountants (CPAs) who demonstrate expertise in all areas of financial planning, can help plan one's financial strategies and recognize the tax implications of the decisions.
- Each month, transfer a set amount of earnings to savings or investment accounts. A yearly investment of \$6,000 earning only 8-percent interest will grow to more than \$90,000 in just 10 years.
- Check retirement savings and increase retirement plan contributions. Reduce taxable income and save money by increasing contribution to retirement plans like 401(k), Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) or Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plans.
- Bundle itemized deductions. Taxpayers who do not have enough deductions at the end of the year to itemize can bundle their medical expenses and other deductions to increase their deductibles.

For more information visit [www.cpapfs.org](http://www.cpapfs.org).

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# IRS tax tips for child and dependent care, child tax credit

5A

## Child and dependent care credit

If a person has paid someone to care for a child or dependent so they can work, they may be able to reduce their tax by claiming the credit for child and dependent care expenses on their federal income tax return, according to the IRS. This credit is available to people who, in order to work or look for work, have to pay for child-care services for dependents younger than 13. The credit is also available for those who pay for care of a spouse or a dependent of any age who are physically or mentally incapable of caring for themselves.

To claim credit for child and dependent care expenses, one must meet the following conditions:

1. One must have earned income from wages, salaries, tips, or other employee compensation. If married, both partners must have earned income, unless one spouse was either a full-time student or was physically or mentally incapable of self care.

2. The payments for care cannot be paid to someone claimed as one's dependent on a return, or to one's child who is younger than 19.

3. Filing status must be single, head of household, qualifying widow(er) with a dependent child, or married filing jointly.

4. The care must have been provided for one or more qualifying persons identified on the form used to claim the credit.

5. People (and, if married, their spouses) must maintain a house that they live in with the qualifying child or dependent.

What is "qualifying" child or dependent? The child must be younger than 13 when care was provided and one must be able to claim the child as an exemption on one's tax return. (For an exception to this rule see "Child of Divorced or Separated Parents in Publication 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, on the IRS Web site [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).) A spouse who is mentally or physically unable to care for himself or herself also qualifies. A dependent of any age who is physically or mentally incapable of self care also qualifies if the person can be claimed as an exemption on one's tax return (or could have been claimed) except for the fact that the person had \$3,000 or more of gross income.

To claim the credit, one needs to provide the name, Address and taxpayer identification number.

**"Like a mother, taxes are often misunderstood but seldom forgotten."**

ANONYMOUS  
FROM THE IRS TAX QUOTE FILES

tification number. If it's a business one needs the providers employee identification number. Use Form W-10, Dependent Care Provider's Identification and Certification, to request this information from the care provider. If one is filing Form 1040, write the care provider on Form 2441, Child and Dependent Care Expenses. If one is filing Form 1040A, the care provider information goes on schedule 2. A person cannot file 1040EZ if he or she claims the child the child and dependent care credit.

As with all good things, there are limitations on the amount of credit a person can claim. If someone received dependent care benefits from an employer, other rule apply. For more information on the Child and Dependent care Credit, see Publication 503 or Chapter 33 of Publication

17 at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## Child Tax Credit

With the Child Tax Credit, people may be able to reduce their federal tax by \$600 for each qualifying child younger than 17, according to the IRS. A qualifying child for credit is someone who:

- Is claimed as a dependent
- Was under the age of 17 at the end of 2002
- Is a son or daughter, adopted child, grandchild, stepchild, or eligible foster child
- Is a US citizen or resident

The credit is limited if one modified adjusted gross income is above a certain amount. The total credit – not the per child amount – is reduced by \$50 for each \$1,000 (or part thereof) that one's adjusted gross income exceeds the threshold amount. The amount at which phase out begins varies depending on one's filing status. The amounts are:

- Married filing jointly – \$110,000
- Married filing separately –

\$55,000  
• All other – \$75,000

The Child Tax Credit reduces the amount of tax one owes. In addition, if the credit one is eligible to claim exceeds one's tax liability, one can claim the difference as a refund. Use Form 8812 *Child Tax Credit*, to figure additional savings.

One may claim the Child Tax Credit on Form 1040 or 1040A. Details on how to compute the credit can be found in the forms' instructions and in Publication 972, *Child Tax Credit* at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

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# IRS tax tips for students

The IRS has good news for students.

Students are entitled to as much as \$5,250 in employer-provided educational assistance – tax free. This benefit is extended indefinitely and includes graduate level courses as well.

Some people may deduct up to \$3,000 of qualified higher education expenses for courses during 2002, even if they don't itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A.

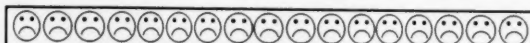
And interest on student loans for higher education may now be deducted whenever paid and regardless of the age of the loan.

Saving for college? Changes have been made to make contributing to either Coverdell education savings account (ESA) or qualified tuition program (QTP) easier to contribute to and have increased tax benefits on distribution from these accounts.

Before deciding what's best people should read up on income limits, phase outs, qualifying expenses, who can contribute and more. See Publication 970 Tax Benefits for Higher Education to learn more about ways to save on taxes at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**"Taxes are what we pay for civilized society."**

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES JR.,  
FROM THE IRS TAX QUOTE FILES



## Market Got You Down?

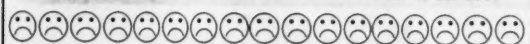
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■ PRESS RELEASE ■

# Haven't we already been to this movie?

By William T. Ryan

After three very difficult years in the stock market and upon the brink of war with Iraq, most investors are wondering what to do with their portfolios. If it were just a matter of dollars and cents the answer would be relatively simple; buy now and have patience. But recent geopolitical events have disoriented many average Americans to the point that they are unable to think clearly and dispassionately about their stocks, bonds and mutual funds. As a consequence many of these avowed long-term investors have unintentionally turned into closet market timers.

We have just been through a period in which the stock market acted as if this were the second Great Depression. Stocks were sold off with reckless abandon every time there was a terrorist attack in Israel, even though those events had little tangible effect on any individual

stock. Fortunately the panic phase of this cycle appears to be over. During the fourth quarter of 2002 stocks staged an impressive rally, gaining almost 10%. However we have now entered the pre-war phase of the market.

When Iraq attacked Kuwait in July 1990 the securities markets plummeted throughout the summer. During the fall they began to recover as we gained confidence that the United States would prevail. However immediately prior to the US counterattack in January 1991 markets again trembled with fears that something would go wrong. Political attacks from opponents of the Bush administration sounded ominous cries of imminent peril and sure global conflagration. That only added to the market's fears. But once the air attacks began, the stock markets rallied and never looked back, with only a negligible pause in 1994.

Keep in mind that there had been a very serious recession

in 1989-90 and the economy was facing far greater challenges than today. The entire banking system of the United States seemed to be in freefall and the housing, auto and technology sectors were paralyzed. To have an attack on a sovereign country, like Kuwait a US ally, was something that seemed too much to bear. But bear it we did and, once the griping was over, Americans banded together in victory and a long period of economic prosperity began.

If you overlay the stock market's performance of the period from July 1990 to February 1991 with that of July 2002 until today, the resemblance is uncanny. We are now in the period of pre-war jitters as we were in early January 1991. We can only hope that the result is the same once the war begins.

On the economic front, today's economic hardships pale in comparison with those of that previous period. Other than technology, most indus-

tries have held their own, with autos and homebuilding experiencing boom times. On average, profits have been growing slowly but surely, yet investors seem totally preoccupied with world events. (As a child of the nineteen fifties it's difficult for me to compare Khrushchev's finger on the ICBM button with Saddam Hussein's pathetic threats.) If past is prologue once the US attack begins, the winner will quickly become apparent, and our allies will extol the virtues of a preemptive attack.

We believe in the possibility that once a democracy is established in Iraq, Iran may follow suit. Iranians are already acting less subservient than normal. Should there be other democracies in the Middle East, aside from Israel, there may be significant economic benefits for our country. We are getting close to knowing how it will pan out and what the stock market's reaction will be. Are you prepared for a recovery?

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